The LUTHERAN

FORTY YEARS' SERVICE

Pacific Synod Secretary is honored

No. 37

JUNE 13, 1956

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SAFE

IT WAS BILLY'S first night of sleeping outside. Since we had a houseful of guests, he had chosen the front porch for his bunk "to get used to sleeping out before going to camp." Our eight-year-old was eager to prove his bravery until he saw distant lightning flashes just as he was getting into bed. We persuaded him that the storm was far away, and should it rain, we would help him get his things inside.

UNWILLING TO ADMIT my own trepidation, I chose the living room couch for my bed "because of the intense heat upstairs." At two o'clock, I awoke and looked out the window. Bright moonlight flooded the porch. Billy was sound asleep in spite of a very rumpled bed. The mosquito netting his father had rigged over the cot was askew and wrapped around the boy's arm. His pillow and blanket had slipped to the floor. He looked cold, huddled under a thin sheet.

I went outside and quietly straightened th bedding. Billy woke up long enough to sa "Hi, Mom. It didn't rain, did it?" and w asleep again before I had finished clampin the netting in place. I went back to m couch but couldn't sleep. For a long tim I tossed restlessly, wondering about cam What if Billy became uncovered at nigh Suppose there were frequent electric storms Would he miss his family to much? Was he too young to be away?

AT LAST I dozed fitfully, but was startle awake suddenly. It seemed as if someon had touched me and whispered, "Your so is all right." I got up, but there was no on in the room. The house was still. Outsid Billy was still sleeping peacefully.

Of course Billy was all right. And h would be all right at camp, too. For wouldn Someone be watching over him constantly

—ERNESTINE DAUM

The LUTHERAN — News Magazine of the United Lutheran Church in America

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OVER PICTURE. Dr. Fred T. Lucas of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Centralia, Washington, resents plaque to Dr. Walter I. Eck who completed forty years as synod secretary at ecent convention, was elected for forty-first. Mrs. Eck is at right. See story on page 34.

THE CHURCH IN THE NEWS

Russians assert Christian unity

Rain-drenched pickets bearing signs with slogans like "Go Home, Servants of the Devil" were waiting at New York's Idlewild Airport on June 2 as eight Christian leaders from Soviet Russia arrived for a ten-day visit. The hundred demonstrators, representing mostly publicity-seeking fundamentalist sects or Russian exiles, were ignored by the visitors.

Officially welcoming the Russian churchmen, whose plane landed six hours late because of inclement weather, were leaders of the National Council of Churches of Christ. Under NCCC auspices, the visitors planned to continue talks begun with U.S. church leaders in Moscow in March, and to visit several eastern cities.

Church membership in Russia has increased considerably since the end of World War II, Russian Orthodox Metropolitan Nikolai told reporters, and theological seminaries have four times as many applicants as they can accept. Churches in the Soviet Union are "free and independent" of government interference, he asserted.

"We come from different countries, but we are both under the banner of Christian love," the Russian spokesman said. "The same words are on your banner and ours—Jesus Christ and His Gospel." Included in the delegation were the Lutheran archbishops of Estonia and Latvia, Jan Kiivit and Gustav Turs.

Synod sues to regain church

St. Paul's Church in Camden, New Jersey, two years ago announced its "withdrawal" from the United Lutheran Church's Central Pennsylvania Synod. ULCA support of National and World Councils of Churches constituted "m ernism" and a "compromise with Word of God," some members of the c gregation claimed. Its pastor since 19 the Rev. Charles G. Bauer, had b active in fundamentalist and separa movements.

Early this month the synod filed s in New Jersey Superior Court to g possession of the church's property. group of members wanted to remain lo to the synod, the suit claimed, and b synodical and state law provide that pr erty reverts to synod when a congre tion departs from the constitutional confessional position of the church.

The congregation, though affilia with the synod since its founding in 19 has not filed parochial reports in rec years. Last report showed 740 c muning members.

Refugee total reaches 6,000

Last person to come ashore from transport *General Langfitt* at New Y on May 25 was the 6,000th refugee w comed to these shores by Lutheran Re gee Service under the U.S. Refugee Re Act. Lutherans among the 1,199 refug aboard the chartered ship numbered —the largest single group to arrive at time under the current program.

LRS staff members aided by volunt workers toiled from early morning u late night. New arrivals were hel through customs and other formalit fed, instructed, provided with tra tickets, put aboard train or bus, or turn over to sponsors who met them in N York. The newcomers will scatter to states.

April 5 had been a bigger day for L but the 430 refugees who arrived at t

came in three separate groups, by
or plane.
e May 25 boatload brought refugee
ls to 6,668, said Dr. Cordelia Cox,
director. Of these, 668 came into
U.S. under regular immigration
s. Goal before the end of 1956 is
esettlement of 15,000 refugees. As-
ces of sponsorship received up to
25 totaled 9,034. Many of these are
mily groups, making the individual
attainable if screening processes
te fast enough. The present refugee
pires on Dec. 31.

A income gains—but not enough

st year the ULCA synods fell short
whisker of meeting in full the ap-
ned quota of approximately $6 mil-
Since the 1956 budget represents a
cent increase, a large gain in benev-
e giving will be necessary if this
$7,587,944 total is to be attained.
ures released by ULCA Treasurer
nd F. Wagner covering the first
nonths of 1956 revealed that United Lutherans were giving considerably more than last year, but not enough more to come even close to this year's goal. A 15 per cent increase brought receipts for the period up to May 20 to $1,887,072. This represented a gain of more than $251,000 over the same period last year. The proportion of the year's quota contributed in the four months was 24 per cent—3 per cent below the proportion received at this time last year.

Lutheran World Action receipts for four months showed a gain of nearly 8 per cent over 1955—enough to make this another 100 per cent year if the trend continues.

Presbyterians move toward merger

A major merger in ranks of U.S. Presbyterians seemed certain as delegates to the 168th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. voted unanimously at their Philadelphia convention late last month to unite with the United Presbyterian Church. The Presbyterian U.S.A. group has about 3 million

RUSSIAN BAPTIST LEADERS VISITING U.S.

Nikolai Levindanto, vice president of All-Soviet Baptist Council; Jakov Zhidkov, ent; Alexander Karev, secretary. Rear: Ilya Ivanov, treasurer, and Miss Klaudia Tyrtova, Mr. Zhidkov's secretary. Group is here for 30-day tour.

members, the United Presbyterians about 500,000. United Presbyterians will act on merger plans at their convention in Knoxville, Tenn., this week.

Both groups had two years ago approved a three-way merger which would have included the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. (Southern). Local presbyteries in the Southern Church defeated the move at that time.

Most pressing question at Philadelphia in the current merger negotiations was the name of the new body, which will come into being in 1958 if local presbyteries of both merging groups approve. After lively debate the name "United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A." was accepted.

Southern Presbyterians face problems

The Southern Presbyterian Church, which broke away from the other bodies in 1861 largely over slavery and secession issues, is not shut out from the current merger, spokesmen for the U.S.A. and United churches said. As soon as local sentiment in the South permits further negotiations, the other bodies will be willing to work out a complete Presbyterian union.

Problems arising from integration of the school systems in southern states are giving Southern Presbyterians their "most difficult times since the dark days of the Civil War," Dr. J. McDowell Richards of Decatur, Georgia, told the Philadelphia meeting. He was present as fraternal delegate from the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. of which he is moderator.

The Supreme Court anti-segregation decision "has been used by some to open old wounds and to stir the emotions of our people so that much of the real progress which had been made toward a Christian basis in racial relationships has been endangered," Dr. Richards declared. The Southern moderator added that denomination had urged abolition of regation in all churches and church a cies. "Men may be won into a volun acceptance of attitudes and policies w they will not accept under compulsi he said.

Record budget adopted

Members of the Presbyterian Chu U.S.A. will be asked to contribut record $32 million to benevolence 1957. The General Assembly adopte budget approximately $6 million hi than in 1956.

Basic 1957 operating budget for Presbyterian group will be $15 mill This includes $5.5 million for home sions, $4.6 million for foreign missi and $2.5 million for Christian educat An additional $10 million is earma for "advance" programs and will be located as received. Approximately million will be asked for special purp

A $225,000 budget item was sub for *Presbyterian Life*, the denominati bi-weekly magazine. Delegates were that circulation has climbed to 942, which makes it the largest-circulated ligious magazine in the world.

Chosen moderator of the church David W. Proffitt, of Maryville, T The 64-year-old department store o and farmer was elected on the first ba receiving 474 of the 905 votes Others in the race were Dr. Edward L Elson, Washington pastor, and Dr. mon B. Kistler, Beaver College presi Actual full-time head of the church is Eugene Carson Blake, who was re-ele as "Stated Clerk." Dr. Blake is also p dent of the National Council of Churc

Housing bias deplored

Resolutions expressing repentance racial discrimination are meaningless

acked by deeds, the General As-
ly agreed in adopting a report pre-
d by its Standing Committee on So-
Education and Action. It called on
hurch members whose homes were
r sale to make them available to "all
fied purchasers without regard to
'

operty values "do not necessarily
ne, and in fact often rise" when non-
s come into neighborhoods, the re-
said. "Panic selling" when Negroes
into a neighborhood should be
ned, the report went on, in order
neighborhoods may be stabilized on
nsegregated basis.

her sections of the lengthy report
l the U.S. government to continue
iations to outlaw weapons of mass
uction and expressed approval of
al aid to education.

uring debate on the segregation item,
egate asked what "significance and
rt" adoption of such resolutions by
General Assembly would have. In
, Dr. Blake said the report "speaks
he whole church, but does not bind
ody's conscience. This is not a papal
nouncement—if it were it would not
resbyterian."

East problems aired

ghty delegates gathered last month
eirut, Lebanon, for a conference
sored by the World Council of
ches and the International Mission-
Council. Tensions and refugee prob-
in the Near East formed the chief
cts of discussion.

. O. Fred Nolde, Philadelphia Semi-
professor and director of the Com-
on of the Churches on International
rs, a joint agency of the two spon-
g groups, said the conference report
d call upon churches everywhere to
ible efforts to find a political solu-
tion for the problem of Arab refugees in Palestine. Peace in the Near East depends upon a peaceful resettlement for the million Moslem Arabs who were uprooted from their homes after the establishment of Israel, he said.

"If Israel wants to convince the world of a real desire for peace she must hasten to settle the problem of refugees," the conference report said. Demands of Arab refugees for compensation or repatriation, fair exploitation of lands and waters of the Holy Land, modification of frontiers between the Arab states and Israel, and the special status of Jerusalem were also considered, Dr. Nolde explained. The report, which reaffirms action taken by a similar conference in 1951, will be submitted to the United Nations.

Jews assail Arab bigotry

The U.S. government permits Arab nations to discriminate against the religious practices of American citizens, the American Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Committee charged last month.

"Recent reports now confirmed by the State Department that Saudi Arabia has prohibited the wearing of religious insignia by American chaplains . . . and has imposed restrictions upon openly held religious services evoke some disturbing questions. Under terms of our lease agreement, Saudi Arabia was permitted to dictate to the U.S. government that no Jewish service men could serve their country at the Dhahran base. The traditional rights of American Jews were thus bartered away as a concession to Arab fanaticism."

The Jewish Committee added that American citizens of the Jewish faith "are denied the right to travel and trade through Arab countries" and are barred from "government and military posts and

from employment on U.S. defense installations in Arab lands."

Protesting to President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, the Jewish groups called this "an intolerable position for our government."

Egypt threatens crackdown

Protestant and Roman Catholic mission schools in Egypt received a "solemn warning" last month from the Egyptian Ministry of Education to teach the Islamic religion to their Moslem students or face confiscation.

The threat resulted from a recent law imposing restrictions on mission schools. Schools are now required to provide mosques on their premises to enable Moslem students to perform their prayers. They must close on Friday, the Moslem sabbath.

Protestant and Roman Catholic schools have been putting up a stiff fight against compliance with the new law, but the Coptic Orthodox church schools have accepted it. The Coptic church is the largest Christian group in Egypt. Some mission schools have announced their intention of barring all Moslem students next year.

Christian missionaries are "hateful fanatics," an editorial in the government newspaper *Al Gamhouriya* declared in referring to the new law. If they are "slow to come to their senses" they should be expelled from the country, the editorial continued.

Baptists warned against extremists

Five Russian Baptist visitors (*see page 5*) who attended the annual convention of the U.S. Southern Baptist Convention at Kansas City late last month didn't see many fireworks. In the opening address to the 10,000 messengers Dr. C. C. Warren of Charlotte, N.C., president of the convention, urged that discussion of racial segregation be omitted this year.

The convention had taken action t
years ago expressing its agreement w
the Supreme Court's ruling outlaw
segregation in public schools, Dr. War
said. "Extremists and agitators have d
incalculable harm" on the race relati
issue, he continued. "Those who foll
such a course overlook the fact that e
nomic and social relationships which h
been 300 years in the making cannot
changed overnight."

The denomination's executive co
mittee sidetracked another explosive is
when it declined to recommend a co
challenge of the Hill-Burton Act wh
allows federal aid to church-owned
stitutions.

Although Southern Baptists traditi
ally champion complete church-state s
aration, leaders felt that wide accepta
of government funds by other chu
groups — notably Roman Catholics
would make any court action seem m
like an attack on other churches tha
test of the law.

Religion no bar to union shop

Workers whose religious beliefs for
them to join labor unions may be fi
from their jobs under union shop c
tracts, the U.S. Supreme Court agr
The court's May 28 action left stand
a decision of a federal district court
Los Angeles.

The challenge to the Railway La
Act's union shop provisions had b
brought by two railroad workers who
members of the Plymouth Brethren s
The two lost their jobs when union s
agreements were entered into. T
claimed their church teaches a literal
terpretation of the biblical injunct
"Do not be mismated with unbelieve
(2 Corinthians 6:14, RSV.) They
therefore declined to join or to pay d
to a labor union.

BOSTON COMMUNION BREAKFAST ATTRACTS 4,600 PROTESTANT MEN
received communion in their own churches before attending sixth annual event

hen they lost their jobs, the two
ht court redress by claiming that the
deprived them of their freedom of
on and also took away their prop-
by compelling them to pay union
as a condition for continuing their
oyment.

idation appeal fails

o "substantial federal question" exists
e growing practice of adding fluoride
ic water supplies, the Supreme Court
on May 28 in declining to hear a
tian Scientist's plea that such a prac-
violated his constitutional rights. The
ical is added to water as a deterrent
th decay.

illiam J. Kraus of Cleveland had
aled to the court after the Ohio Su-
e Court upheld Cleveland's right to
luoride to its water supply. Lawyers
ne Christian Science Mother Church
ston represented the Cleveland man
s action. The Board of Directors of
Mother Church supported the appeal,
g that fluoridation "requires com-
cants of the Christian Science
ch to imbibe directly or indirectly
cinal additives . . . contrary to their
ous convictions" and that the Ohio
eme Court decision therefore was "a
bad precedent for religious freedom."

"The religion of Christian Science teaches that one of the first duties of its adherents is reliance upon spiritual means alone for healing disease and preserving a healthy body in complete rejection of medicine and other systems of healing," the appeal said.

Communion breakfasts misused

Roman Catholic communion breakfasts are being used as "sounding boards for all sorts of quackery," the Baltimore *Catholic Review* charged. "Disgruntled politicians, hysterical anti-Communists, hysterical anti-anti-Communists, so-called Catholic liberals and Catholic conservatives all seem to get around to selling false wares under the guise of truth," the weekly said.

Communion breakfasts are often held in Roman Catholic parishes in connection with corporate communions which church groups attend in a body. The custom is to have prominent speakers or entertainment at them.

Declaring that the communion breakfast has a definite purpose and spiritual aim, the paper said its misuse tends "to destroy the unity of faith which is witnessed at the altar rails."

World News Notes

Tito comes home

Rulers of Russia in 1956 have proven themselves more flexible in strategy than the Roman Catholic Vatican of the 16th century.

The British emperor, Henry VIII, in the 16th century, broke with the Vatican although he continued to affirm the Catholic faith. The Vatican was unyielding, made no concession to Henry to bring him back into the fold on his own terms. Rome lost England and, eventually, her American colonies.

Yugoslavia's Tito has been true to his faith in communism, but broke with his Russian masters. He was excommunicated from world communism in 1948. This month he was received with open arms in Moscow, not as a prodigal son who has repented but as a fellow-Communist who has won the right to determine his own nation's policies.

Russia's Khrushchev and Bulganin made a humble pilgrimage to Yugoslavia last summer to bid for Tito's friendship. They acknowledged that the excommunication was a mistake for which such misguided leaders as Stalin and Molotov were responsible. To emphasize that Russia has repented, Molotov was dropped as foreign minister on the day before Tito arrived in Moscow.

Still to be answered is whether the Communist system has enough internal strength to survive in the satellite states without the support of Russian military dominance. The success of Tito's revolt against Russian dictation will encourage Red countries in East Europe to seek more independence.

Red bid in Korea

The time has come to reunite North and South Korea, Chinese Communists announced. "A conference of the natio concerned should be called to discuss t question of withdrawal from Korea of foreign forces and the peaceful unific tion of Korea," they said.

The Red bid, given to the British April 9, was made public June 1, alo with a British reply which said the We ern nations don't trust the Chinese enou to believe that another conference wou be worth while.

"If the People's Republic of China a the North Korean regime have concr proposals for a resettlement of the K rean question in conformity with the jectives of the United Nations," said t British, the proposals will be given f consideration. But there is no eviden the British said, that there has been a change in the situation. The Chin were accused of shipping large suppl of military material including seve hundred jet planes or bombers—in North Korea contrary to the 1953 ar istice agreement.

More liquor in Sweden

Sweden's strict rationing law on sale of liquor had been repealed last tober. A round-up on Swedish drinki habits six months after repeal showed per cent increase in liquor consumpti 50 per cent increase in arrests drunkenness.

Biggest increase in drinking among the 18 to 25 year olds, who w not eligible for liquor rations under old law. Arrests for drunkenness were 120 per cent in the six months.

Under rationing the heaviest drinki was over weekends. Since October, M days, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays ha become the wettest days, and weeke have been relatively dry in many are

SHINGTON

BERT VAN DEUSEN

SOCIAL SECURITY

OPOSED CHANGES in the Social Se- law have sparked a lively contro- The House passed a bill with sev- ew provisions. The Senate Finance nittee disapproved most of the es. Vigorous discussion is expected e Senate floor. After Senate action, o bills will go to a conference com- .

sals

der the present law, Old Age and ors' Insurance benefits are available rkers and their wives when they re- 65 or to their families when they he bill passed by the House makes e for retirement benefits workers ars of age and older who are totally ermanently disabled. This idea was l down by the Senate Finance Com- .

other provision of the House bill ed the retirement age for women 65 to 62. Under the present law, a who retires at 65 does not receive ts for his wife until she is 65 also. an dies, his widow receives benefits g as she has any minor children. she receives no further help until eaches 65. A woman worker cov- by Social Security may retire and benefits when she reaches 65.

der the law passed by the House, n in all three categories—workers, of retired workers, and widows— begin receiving benefits three years earlier. The Senate Finance Committee objected to this provision with one exception. In the case of widows, they agreed to lower the age to 62.

A third area of disagreement was the boosting of the Social Security tax. The House voted to increase the OASI contribution paid by employers and employees by ½ of 1 per cent. In the case of self-employed persons (including ministers) the increase would be ¾ of 1 per cent. This would mean $21 more per year for the employed worker earning $4,200 or more, $31.50 more per year for a self-employed person. The Senate Finance Committee rejected this proposal.

ANOTHER ACTION by the Senate Committee would have the effect of dropping from the Social Security rolls about 200,000 migrant workers who are now covered. Under the present law, an agricultural worker is eligible for coverage if he earns as much as $100 a year from a single employer. The proposed change would raise the minimum to $200 from one employer, or 30 days for one employer at a daily, weekly, or monthly rate. This would eliminate thousands of migrants who work by the hour and who are not hired long enough by any one grower to make as much as $200. These people need Social Security benefits more urgently than almost any other group.

The House bill and the Senate Finance Committee report agreed on one major change. A widowed mother who has a disabled child would continue to receive benefits after the child has passed the age of 18.

The position of the administration coincides approximately with the action taken by the Senate Finance Committee. Public interest in the proposed amendments is running high, and there is considerable pressure for passage.

THE FRONTIER IS BRAZIL . . . . This hu

South American country is still in its Davy Crockett days, with men horseback more plentiful than trucks roaring along the dusty roa Lutherans, more than 500,000 of them, are still in the pioneer days their church life. Pastors have large parishes and few automobi

BRAZIL IS THE biggest country in South America, slightly larger than the whole U.S., and fantastically rich in natural resources. But much of the vast country is totally undeveloped, especially in the hot equatorial areas.

European immigrants of the past 100 years naturally chose the more temperate parts of the huge country. If you consult your atlas and look southward from Rio de Janeiro, particularly between Joinville and Porto Alegre, you will be seeing the "Lutheran Brazil." This is no idle boast. Here there are sizeable areas where Protestants equal and outnumber the Ro Catholics.

The first Germans arrived in 1824 kept coming for many years. If drive up the Itajai River out of Blume you will pass village after village church after church belonging to Ger Lutheran "colonists." The word "co ist" is the equivalent of farmer.

BRAZIL, LIKE THE U.S., is divided states. Lutherans are to be found p cipally in three of these states, nam Rio Grande do Sul (next to Urugu

EWART W. HERMAN

will be two further reports on Brazil by
rman, who returned last month from ex-
travel among the churches there. Dr.
n is the director of the Lutheran World
tion's Committee on Latin America.

Catarina, and Parana. The only concentration of Lutherans north o de Janeiro is located in the moun-us coastal state of Espirito Santo. ered congregations are also to be l in the states of Sao Paulo and s Gerais and Rio de Janeiro itself.

is description refers primarily to the 00-member church which recently as its official title the *Evangelical ch of the Augsburg Confession*. It gs to the Lutheran World Federa-There is another Lutheran Church, ded and supported by the Missouri l, which covers approximately the territory and is now endeavoring ant new congregations even in the orial districts. It numbers about 00 members.

E EVANGELICAL CHURCH of the burg Confession is the outgrowth of federation of four independent s. The biggest of the four has 554 egations (300,000 members) and is the Synod of Rio Grande do Sul s membership spills over into west-anta Catarina and even Parana. The n of one busy pastor, containing 22 ized congregations, stretches into states!

xt—moving northward—comes the gelical Synod of Santa Catarina and a, which is the most compact of the and is almost exclusively confined to Catarina, centering around the busy rial town of Blumenau. This synod ers 152 congregations and about 00 members. Then comes the Lutheran Church of Brazil, slightly larger, which also centers in the State of Santa Catarina but spreads westward into Parana and north of Rio de Janeiro into Espirito Santo.

The name of this third synod calls for special explanation. It derives from the days when there was a strong movement in Germany toward the word "Evangelical" and away from the word "Lutheran." At the time of the 300th anniversary of the Reformation in 1817 there was a concerted effort to eliminate the distinction between the Reformed minority and the Lutheran majority. In Prussia under government pressure the two churches were merged for purposes of administration.

This "unionistic" movement evoked considerable opposition both inside and outside of Prussia. Under strong Lutheran leadership in Bavaria, a voluntary agency was set up to supply Lutheran pastors to Lutheran colonies abroad and for many years the *Gotteskasten,* or Lord's Treasury, was the strong support of young churches as far apart as Australia, Iowa, and this Brazilian synod which is now 50 years old.

Now that all four Brazilian synods have placed themselves squarely on the Augsburg Confession, the name of this one synod serves largely as a historical reminder of earlier tensions. In certain quarters there are still rumblings of discontent when the new body shows signs of being too Lutheran, but this attitude appears to be prompted more by the echoes of postwar arguments in Germany than by local disagreements.

THE FOURTH BODY is called the Synod of Central Brazil. Based chiefly in the two great cities of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, it numbers only 17 congregations and 3,500 souls. These are to be found

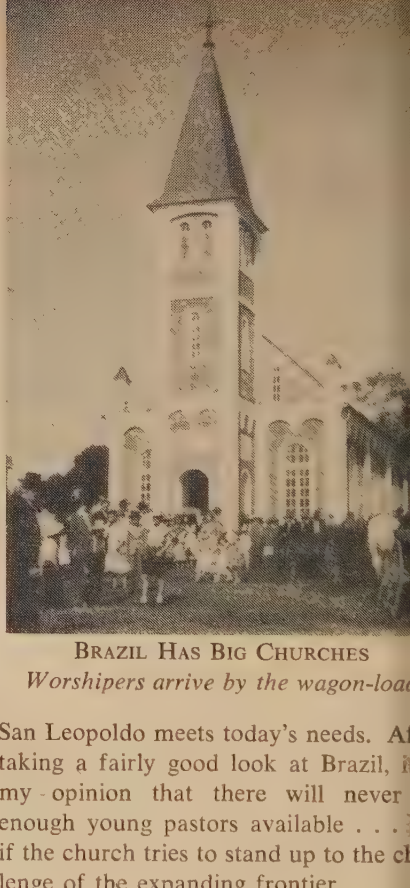
not only in the states which take their names from Brazil's two best-known cities but also in Espirto Santo and Minas Gerais. The northernmost organized congregation having a regular pastor belongs to this synod and is located at Theofilo Otoni, center of precious stone mining. To reach it I had to fly first to Belo Horizonte, which is the handsome new capital of Minas Gerais (General Mines), then upcountry to Gobernador Valdarez where the airport was only a gravel runway and wooden shack, and finally by hired car over dusty roads for three hours.

LACK OF EASY communication has been one of the greatest obstacles in the way of co-ordinated advance on the part of these synods and even within the synods. The air age is knitting Brazil together long before the completion of surface highways and railroads. But the church has not been able to indulge much in the luxury of flight.

Roads, although improving rapidly, are bad by North American standards. Bogging down in mud is a common hazard, to say nothing of losing endless hours in the carburetor-clogging fight with dust or the axle-shattering battle with washboard surfaces. Most of the rail routes are slow, dirty and tedious.

Until recently most pastors had no automobiles and the parish councils saw no need for them. Muleback or horse-and-buggy were good enough for an earlier generation and should suffice today! Fortunately, this attitude is changing. But it cannot change the fact that many pastors are occupying isolated parishes, constantly on the go from village to village or from farm to farm, trying to hold on to the thousands of Lutherans who are yeasting out in all directions.

It will be at least five years before the supply of pastors from the seminary at



BRAZIL HAS BIG CHURCHES
Worshipers arrive by the wagon-loa

San Leopoldo meets today's needs. A taking a fairly good look at Brazil, my opinion that there will never enough young pastors available . . . if the church tries to stand up to the c lenge of the expanding frontier.

THIS IS PROBABLY the most fascina aspect of Brazil's development—m more interesting even than the spectac sprouting of skyscrapers in cities Sao Paulo and Belo Horizonte or C tiba. Primeval forest is being clea away for coffee plantations in the upla of Parana and cities are being laid ou the expectation that a cluster of slab today will become cities of 100,000 400,000 tomorrow.

Standing on the sidewalk in front the Palace Hotel in Maringa I felt my carried back to one of our middle-west cities on the overland stage route ne

ears ago. Some trucks roared along
sty street, but the scene was domi-
by horses and wagons or riders on
back. This was *terra roja* (red
) country and everybody and every-
looked slightly Indian. There was
delible reddish tinge to the houses
inside and out, to the clothing and
e sheets and towels in the hotel.
n shirts, even after washing, took on
kish hue.

F THERE is nothing wrong with the
self, and no hardships will now stop
orward march of the frontier until
aches the westernmost boundaries.
is process all the religious traditions
e country are involved. As on the
rican frontier, religion is free to ex-
press itself and most of the pioneers are openminded. In short, these new Brazilians moving westward in search of more land for growing families are looking for a renewal of faith too.

The Lutherans among them can have a formative influence in the development of the new territories. That is, if their precious linguistic and cultural heritage does not become a hindrance.

At present the largest Protestant group in Brazil is Lutheran. Families are large. In many parishes, nine or ten children is the rule rather than the exception. But the church, by and large, has not yet moved outside its ethnic boundaries. In endeavoring to cope with the vast and complicated job of ministering to its own, it has not yet begun to minister to others.

"See What You Made Me Do"

Temper flare-ups at home often result from our habit of blaming others for our mistakes

By PAULINE PALMER MEEK

JE OF THE CHILDREN had left a be-
n-meals glass of milk half-finished on
ining table. Another came along and
d a game over the table, without
ering to set the milk out of dangerous
tory. I came along, snatched at it irritably to prevent spillage—and knocked it over myself.

"See what you made me do!" I scolded, annoyed with the child who had left the

milk there and with the one who had neglected to put it out of his way.

"See what you made me do," I said. And then I had to grin at myself as I dashed for the mopping cloth. I grinned because only that morning I had read in one of Dr. Gesell's books that to say, "Look what you made me do," is the typical reaction of a five-year-old.

Dr. Gesell's careful observations of hundreds of children have helped many of us parents to accept our offspring's growth patterns with patience. There is comfort in knowing that we can expect the five-year-old, typically casting all blame on others, to grow into the more responsible eight-year-old who usually has good cause when he points the finger at someone else. The more mature nine-year-old, while still zealous in seeing that blame is attached fairly, can usually accept his own share of guilt and can even criticize himself by saying "I would do that!"

There is some comfort in recognizing children's growth patterns. It is pretty cold comfort when I must admit that my own growth appears to have stopped on the five-year-old level.

Few of us are so consistently mature that we can live by the adage "Don't cry over spilled milk." Whenever someth goes wrong in home, church, society, international relations the human react is to expend half our energy in hunt for a culprit. I suppose the great po larity of "whodunit" stories in boo radio, and television is a pertinent ample of how we love to stop at the po of fixing blame.

It is so much easier to stop here t to concentrate on relieving suffering changing attitudes and mopping up messes made by human sin and negl It takes a really mature man to accept unfortunate fact of things-gone-wrong, put aside self-pity and niggling hatre and to work at putting things right aga

While I set about to mop the dripp milk from table, chair, and floor, my pulse was to continue, sleuth-style, track down the criminal who had left milk out of place and the accessory-aft the-fact who had failed to put it aw But thoughts of Dr. Gesell's five-year- still haunted me. After all, *whose h had actually tipped the glass?*

It was plain enough that if I carr my "whodunit" to its logical conclus I should have had to look at myself title the thing "The Case of Arres Development."

Engraved in gold on the new black marble fireplace in the formal dining room at the White House is a blessing written for the White House by President John Adams in 1800. "I pray heaven to bestow the best of blessings on this house and on all that shall hereafter inhabit it. May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof."

The blessing was originally placed on the old stone fireplace in the same room at the instigation of President F. D. Roosevelt, but after the White House decoration it was discarded until President Eisenhower recently asked to have it restored.

MAN AND TWENTY MISSIONS

EORGE B. McCREARY

On a cold winter day in 1952, Dr. Shelhart completed plans for organizing his 16th mission—at Menomonee Falls, Wis. Four years later there have been four more.

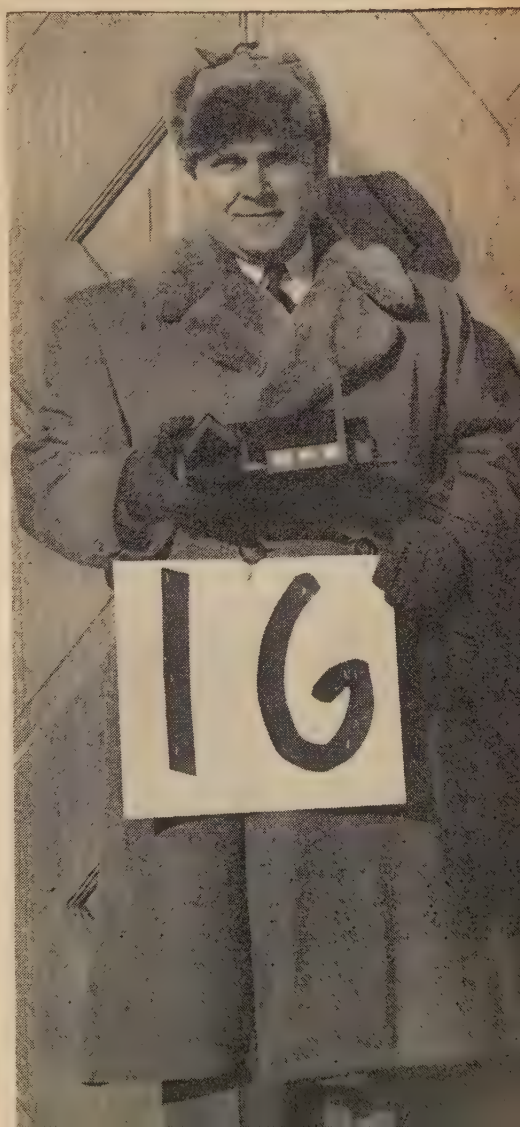
E COLD, RAINY NIGHT in October the Brotherhood Sadhe Aleph, a e fraternity chiefly concerned with ing young men to enter the min- was holding its preliminary initia- at Thiel College. Being one of the more members, I was directed to go e north of town and meet one of the dates at Porter's schoolhouse.

lking through the mud and rain, I ered about the wisdom of initiations punished the sophomores almost as as the freshmen. Arriving at the lhouse, I found a shivering, be- led freshman from near Barberton, whose misery indicated his willing- o suffer greatly to attain his goal.

E FRESHMAN was Dwight H. Shel- I soon learned that his chief inter- n life were mathematics and poetry. re many months passed, Thiel Col- became aware that there was one nt who was second only to the pro- r of mathematics in his knowledge at science.

fore long we were aware, also, that ht Shelhart was a painstaking per- who shirked no hard task in doing thoroughly and well. Other editor- of the school paper, the *Thielensian*, ended with deficits, but when Elson became editor of that paper, with ht Shelhart as his business manager, paper ended the year with an as- ling surplus.

iends urged Dwight to enter the min- but some of them felt deep in their s that Shelhart would turn out to be fessor of mathematics, a business- or a banker.



HERE ARE SOME OF THE 667 CHARTER MEMBERS
Organization Day at Mt. Pleasant, Wisconsin

But the Holy Spirit had its way in his heart, and Shelhart went on from college to Northwestern Theological Seminary in Minneapolis, graduating in the class of 1926. That year he went to his first pastorate, Holy Trinity Church, Superior, Wisconsin, where he served until becoming field missionary for Minnesota on July 1, 1928.

THIS YEAR is the 30th anniversary of Pastor Shelhart's ordination. During his years in the ministry he has established 20 congregations in the Synod of the Northwest. The Shelhart missions are among the top congregations in the synod in benevolent giving.

Pastor Shelhart's twentieth mission, Mt. Pleasant Church, Racine, Wisconsin, was organized on April 29, with 415 charter confirmed members, and 667 baptized members. This may be the largest charter membership of any congregation ever organized in the United Lutheran Church in America.

Dr. Shelhart is keeping pace with the record-breaking home mission pastor, the late Dr. Milton J. Bieber, who organized 35 congregations in a 54-year ministry. Dr. Shelhart has organized 20 in 30 years.

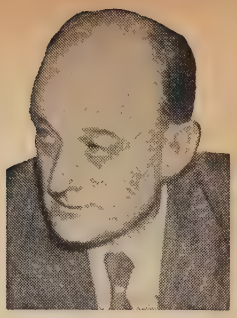
Despite a solid downpour of rain the organization day, attendance at two services totaled 468, and the offer for the building fund amounted to $6,0

OF THE 415 charter members, 347 w transfers from Atonement Chur Racine, to which congregation and pastor, the Rev. Jerome Miller, Pas Shelhart gave great credit for their will and brotherly help in starting the n church. Forty-two members came transfer from other congregations and renewal of faith, 17 came by confir tion, and nine by adult baptism. Th are 214 families in the congregation.

During April the average attenda at morning worship was 345 and the ferings for the month amounted $8,042. With 226 children enrolled the Sunday school, the attendance a aged 161, and the offerings for the mo totaled $220.

Mt. Pleasant Church's first every-m ber visitation was completed on May Atonement Church still holds title to Mt. Pleasant property, but steps are be made to carry out the transfer. And He Missionary Extraordinary Pastor Dw H. Shelhart is setting his course tow other promising home mission fields.

ice is an Instrument of Love



By REINHOLD NIEBUHR

HENEVER ONE WRITES an editorial controversial subject, as I did re- in these pages on the problem of regation, one is swamped with cor- ndence—as I was.

this correspondence, I will choose significant letter because it presents th a persistent problem of the Chris- life. My correspondent protested st my dealing with "political" prob- since it was the business of the min- to "preach love" and not to engage litics.

ere is the problem in a nutshell. is indeed the final norm of the tian life. But the Christian gospel t merely a set of moral rules. It hes the heart and in that searching discovered that even Christians have w in their members," namely, self- which "wars against the law that is eir minds," that is the law of love. is being the case, it is not possible ake love relevant, particularly to the ctive relations of mankind (the rela- of nations and races for instance), e does not avail itself of justice as strument. Justice calculates rights rbitrates competing claims.

L PROBLEMS of justice are therefore able and are subject to the corrup- of self-interest. But when justice is service of love, it supports the weak st the strong, it has a prejudice for minority against the majority. It pleasure in every shifting of the elements in a community which ive rights to rightless people.

e needs only a little moral imagina- o realize that the lot of the Negro rica is not as hopeless as it is in Africa, because the Negro has the The votes of the Negroes in the North have gradually created a political situation in which the Negroes in the South have also been given the vote. They were not powerless and therefore they were not rightless.

THIS HISTORY PROVES that in a sinful world it is not possible to establish justice without a tolerable equilibrium of power, though conscience is always operative in shifting the power balance in the interest of a greater justice.

We have long taken it for granted in the economic struggle that not only the power of the vote but the power of the strike is a necessary instrument of justice. The labor union movement has grown so large that it creates its own problems, but no one can deny that the justice and stability which we enjoy in America and in European democracy, and which has made our society immune to communism, has been partly created by the rights of collective bargaining.

It may be that the initiative of the Negroes in Montgomery, Alabama, will add the boycott to the strike as a legal instrument of justice.

There are, of course, many moral ambiguities in the balances and tensions of justice. But these cannot obscure the fact that justice is a necessary instrument of love in our world, in which it must be assumed that even good men may do evil when they are unrestrained.

WORSHIP NOTEBOOK

IN MORNINGS when the sky is blue, most of us feel more cheerful and energetic than when we wake to find a grey and cloudy sky.

Color has remarkable power to affect our feelings. That's why people are taking an increasing interest in the language of color in decorating their homes.

Some colors are soothing. Others are stimulating. Even the kitchen, these days, glows in blue or orange, red or green. The walls of offices, factories, hospitals, are being painted in bright colors to drive away dreariness.

THE CHURCH has long known the effectiveness of color, and uses it as a means of teaching. On the altar or pulpit or lectern in many churches there are colored hangings, which are changed at the beginning of each season of the church year. For each season there is an appropriate color, and when we understand the meaning of these colors, they help us to appreciate the meaning of the seasons. Nothing in the church registers on our minds more vividly, in giving the keynote of each season, than these changing colors.

Violet is the color for Lent. It is sober. It has red in it, speaking of bold and courageous faith. But it is a subdued and solemn color. It expresses sorrow for the world's sin in denial of our Lord and for our failure to walk in his way. It is the color of penitence. "Create in me a clean heart, O God," it seems to say.

When we see the violet hangings in our churches during Lent, and also during the four weeks of the Advent season which precede Christmas, we know that Christians have entered a period of special serious and sober thinking in preparation for celebrating in true joy the great festival which is coming.

WHEN ON Easter morning we see the beautiful white hangings on the altar, in sharp contrast to the black we saw the on Good Friday, we sense immediately the change in mood from mourning to rejoicing. The red hangings on Pentecost, in the color of fire, are like trumpet calls singing out a message of the courageous faith of the church.

Green, the color of growing things in the world of nature, is the color of the hangings through the summertime, when the church emphasizes the growth of Christian life.

PERSONAL PROBLEM CLINIC

By EARL S. RUDISILL

Barrier

QUESTION: I have a problem with my thirteen-year-old daughter. She is very much separated from me. No matter what I do, it doesn't seem to help the situation. She just won't talk to me about anything personal. She is very detached. I may have seemed cold to her at one time or another when she was younger. I have two younger girls—ages eight and ten. Will Norma always act like this, or will she change?

e likes television and watches the res a great deal. If I am setting her in the adjoining room her mind will n the TV rather than with me. If I to her she seems to be miles away. ere something I can do to change eelings?

REPLY: It is difficult to put a finger any specific factors in experience at cause a child to feel separated from parent. Probably a number of items e combined in the cause. It is likely at inadvertently, without intent, you ve given the girl a feeling that you e aloof from her and less interested her than at an earlier period, and spired her with a kind of fear and sitancy about talking to you about rsonal things. At her age—the time transition from childhood to adoscence—a girl or boy is confused, nsitive, and extremely susceptible to ch an influence.

It is important that during childhood ere be free and open communication tween parent and child, and that ch friendly confidence be cultivated d maintained as youngsters pass over to the teens, when they so much need nfidential counseling and help.

Let me suggest that you create a ry pleasant occasion, introduce some mor, tell of experiences you had at orma's age, speak of problems which orried you at that time, and help her feel that the two of you have much common. You could volunteer the formation that you have been so busy d preoccupied that you have negcted talking to her about things that pecially concern her. Tell her how u passed through her period of life d how you got help. Seek recurring periences of this kind—don't try to it all at once, unless the girl responds with extraordinary co-operation. Be sure that all your association and conversation are of a pleasant, inviting type. Give her a chance to talk every time she shows any disposition to do so. Don't pry into her affairs, but make it easy for her to come out of herself and to speak freely.

With patience, kindness, and tact you can probably win back Norma's confidence, and lead her to be at ease with you. Don't allow slow progress to discourage you, but at the same time avoid encroaching on the girl's desire for a reasonable amount of privacy.

Stepmother

QUESTION: I am thirty-four, and have never been married. I am going with a man whose wife died four years ago. He has two children—a boy of thirteen and a girl of twelve years. Merve wants me to marry him, and I have been holding him off for more than six months because I am afraid his children may regard me as an intruder. I like them very much and would be glad to do anything for them, but I am not sure how they feel.

REPLY: Mervin must know pretty well how the youngsters feel, and he is in a strategic position to win them to an acceptance of you and love for you. Ask his help.

At the same time don't overlook the fact that there is much that you can do to solve the problem. You can woo them with kind words, helpful acts, and a show of understanding and sympathy with them. Now is the time, the very best time, to use your resourcefulness, diplomacy, and charm to prepare the way for a harmonious home life.

But don't overlook the necessity of continuing the wooing effort without ceasing after marriage.

VISITS

THE SYMINGTONS' baby is adorable. I was lucky enough to arrive just at bath time and Mrs. Sym asked me to help.

"It still scares me a little to handle her when she's all wet and slippery. And even with the list of everything I need for her bath I almost always forget something and have to go scrambling for it. We'd really appreciate some help, wouldn't we, Ann?"

Ann half-opened her eyes, then contorted her whole pink little face in a bored yawn. We laughed delightedly, as though no baby had ever done anything half so clever. No matter how many you have seen or even raised, every baby is an ever-recurring miracle. First, there is no baby and then here she is, a totally new personality not quite like anyone who has ever been on earth before or anyone who will be born in all the years to come.

WITH EVERYTHING carefully laid out beforehand and the water exactly the right temperature, the bath was safely accomplished. "Doesn't she smell wonderful?" I asked with more enthusiasm than originality.

"Doesn't who smell wonderful?" demanded Pastor Sym, appearing in the bedroom doorway.

"The baby, silly," Mrs. Sym laughed above Ann's head. Pastor Sym stooped to kiss his wife's cheek, then the baby's foot. "I'm only allowed to kiss her foot until she learns how to put it in her mouth," he explained solemnly. "After that, I am restricted to the back of the neck. Sanitation, it seems, is more highl valued than parenthood. Gone are th good old days when babies were kisse not only by parents but by their uncl and their cousins and their aunts."

"IF YOU HAVE such a yen for kissin babies," his wife suggested, "you migh give up the ministry and go into politics.

"Now there's a neat question. Ho do politicians get away with it nowaday Or don't they. Here, here, Ann, honey What's your mother doing? Pinching you Don't you let her!"

"She's just hungry after all that exe cise. Taking a bath is quite an effort."

"And the young Meltons will soon b getting hungry," I put in, "and no moth there to feed them if I don't run. It w a treat to help bathe Lady Ann. Ma I come again?"

"Please! Any time you have time!"

I SAID a few more of the usual thin and started for the door. In the livin room Pastor Sym stopped me. "Can yo wait just a minute? I'd like to ask you couple of questions about Tony Matte if you don't mind answering them."

"Kathy's husband? Of course I don mind, although I don't know a great dea He's never joined the church or be active in any of the community things

"But aren't you and Mrs. Matteo clo friends?"

"I don't know just how to answer th We were in the same class in school a at the church. We were confirmed t gether. Then after high school we drift

t. Kathy was always touchy. Quick ave her feelings hurt and you know young people are. It was easier to e her alone than try to be friendly have your friendliness misunder-d."

She was always like that, then? It 't just happen after she met and ried Tony?"

Oh, I think it got worse after that. was a nominal Roman Catholic, and le he didn't insist on her joining his rch, he didn't join ours. I think his nts resented the marriage, although t that from Kathy and she may have gined it. Still, it sounds probable. I ld hardly call her a close friend, if by you mean the sort of person you seek and enjoy being with. But our chil-n are the same age and we are thrown ther quite a lot."

Thanks. I think you've cleared up ral things."

Then I'll ask a question and if it is of line, as the kids say, just don't an-r it. Do you think I should tell Pastor about her thinking he's cooked up e plot to use her as a guinea pig and w how he can make her the perfect rch member by neglecting her home family?"

She told him herself. That's why he's d me to counsel with her." He stopped I realized I couldn't ask him any e. And I didn't feel he was taking lf as lightly as Pastor Ittel had at the nning.

WORRIED a bit on the way home, but the children came in for lunch and ld them all about Ann. Kathy and problems faded into the background. ndeed, I hardly thought of her for next few days. Tony's phone-call me by surprise. "Connie? I wonder can come around and talk to you?"

While I waited for him, I picked up the newspapers Dan had strewn around the living-room the night before, then sat down quietly to pray. I didn't know what Tony would have to say, but I was almost certain that it would be something I couldn't handle alone.

"I won't waste words," he said, when I had greeted him and he'd dropped onto the sofa like someone who's come to the end of a long race. "I'm wondering whether Donna can take her lunches here for the next few days? We want Kathy to have some tests made at a doctor's—a psychiatrist's. Part of her trouble seems to be that she can't leave Donna. I know it's asking a lot —"

"Nothing of the sort! I'd love having her. But would Kathy let her stay?"

"Better than at my mother's. She's got the idea that my mother would try to harm Donna. I don't know why, but our family doctor says it's part of her mixed-up feelings, and it makes sense to her. So he thinks it's best to keep my mother out of the picture. And Kathy's mother has gone to pieces so completely she's practically a wreck herself." He put his head down in his hands and for a minute I thought he was going to cry.

"WHAT A DREADFUL time all of you are having!" I tried to put all my sympathy in my voice. "I'll be only too glad to have Donna. Would you like her to stay all the time? You know, until Kathy's through with these tests?"

"Thanks, but she'll want to see that Donna's all right each evening. We won't leave her alone with Donna. And so far Kathy hasn't said anything that would upset the child. She —"

His voice shook and he stopped speaking for a minute. Then he went on. "We'll arrange it then. Thanks ever so much, Connie."

Christian Psychiatry

Christian Life and the Unconscious. By Ernest White. Harper. 190 pages. $3.

Here is pleasant relief in the current dust storm of superficial psychology and anem theology. It is not often that a psychiatrist writes with theological interest, much less di cernment, and even less frequent that Christian theology is characterized as a precurs of modern psychology.

Dr. Ernest White writes out of long study and experience with Dr. Weatherhead's City Temple Clinic. He cuts his way through cliches to reveal the insights of Christianity in a realm now almost surrendered to the scientist.

Laymen with some doubts about God's guidance in truth, daily life and prayer, sanctification, conversion, and "the Christ presence" will be encouraged to re-evaluate the familiar line of preachers, and preachers who are tempted to discount the propriety of psychological investigation will be mightily strengthened homiletically.

It would be difficult to find a better and more concise treatment of conversion (differentiated from the new birth) and redemption (its fact in holiness and its process in sanctification). With restraint but incisiveness Christian Scientists are reminded that sin, evil, and guilt are real. At the same time preachers of platitudes are reminded that conscience is "very variable and often very unreliable."

Recognizing conflict and tension as inevitable, the author destroys the pollyanna element of mass evangelism and the "protest" element of societies "anti-this and anti-that." Quakers and "Christian Pantheists" are charged with confusing the "image of God" with "Christ in the heart," and baptism is underscored in its symbolic and sacramental character far more heavily and intelligibly than we might expect from a "hard-shell" Baptist.

In all of these discussions, Dr. White insists upon the role of the unconscious, not as distinct from the conscious mind, but as an integral part of the whole. The purpose of redemption is not partial but total. In the concluding chapter on "The Concept God," this approach is seen at its best.

From this book every preacher will r ceive new zest for his task and every layma will have a more appreciative attitude for h pastor's labor. ROBERT D. HERSHEY

New York City

Sin in America

Changing Conceptions of Original Sin. H. Shelton Smith. Scribner. 242 pages. $3.5

Experience Mayhew, Jonathan Edward Timothy Dwight, William Channing, a Horace Bushnell are New England nam loosely or precisely connected with the th ological spectrum from Puritan Calvinis and the Great Awakening to Unitarianis and Christian Nurture. H. Shelton Smi has written his book to show that the chan ing hues arise from the changing conceptio of original sin.

With abundant use of source material t author, professor of American Religio Thought at Duke University, shows not on the content of these changing conceptio but also the precise conflicts which the cha pions had with one another. Perhaps valuable as the exact theological views a the insights into the methods of controver showing personal denunciation, heresy tria pamphlet wars and great heat over sm details.

The book is of little help to the par pastor because it is so sharply limited in purpose. It simply presents the changi conceptions of original sin without any r consideration of the sociological, cultur or philosophical climate which influenc the views. One looks in vain, for examp for any reference to Immanuel Kant wh

stic philosophy of duty was so influen-
t the beginning of the 19th century.
inian evolution and the resultant pro-
ive philosophy of history are the excep-
to this general critique.

th a bit of caution, one can use the
"provincial" about the book. Perhaps
a reminder of how isolated New Eng-
was from world Protestantism, but rare
theological leader who does not appear
primarily influenced by his professors
arvard or Yale, rather than the phi-
hers of history or the leading men of
pe.

is a chaste reminder to Lutherans how
it is to write a history of American
ogical thought without mention of a
e American Lutheran. In this case it
done without mention of Martin Luther,
eran, or Lutheranism. We may argue
the data, but for many Americans the
eran Church has yet to be heard.

ie book will seem like a different world
any of us. It is worth reading to under-
l better the background of many of our
w-Christians who live in memory of
issues. OTTO A. BREMER.
rkeley, Calif.

achers Are Still Important

e Primacy of Preaching Today. By Arthur
owan. Scribner's. 128 pages. $2.50.

ie book contains the Warrack lectures
preaching, delivered at New College,
burgh, St. Mary's College, and St. An-
's. The author's "intention is the mod-
ne of passing on to others the themes
techniques which I have discovered to
elcome."

iere is no substitute for the preacher
has endeared himself to his people.
ple receive and believe the Word of
from the influence of some faithful
ster." The novice should not preach
m his own little patch of experience but
er from the funded experience of a peo-
as recorded in the Bible." Preaching
ld express social and personal concern.
onal virtues must be preached to coun-
t the present-day tendency to believe
"that an improved social system will make the sinner obsolete . . ."

Exegetical preaching is important since the Bible is not so familiar to people as it once was.

In the chapter on "The Manner and the Matter of Preaching," the author suggests that preaching be "a glowing tribute to the saving love of Christ." He urges putting emotions into preaching, preaching for decision, putting the ancient truths in terms understandable in our day.

Rochester, N. Y. WALTER COWEN

Teaching or Preaching

Teaching for Results. By Findley B. Edge. Broadman Press. 230 pages. $3.00.

The author is a former director of Christian education in the Southern Baptist Convention and now a professor at Southern Baptist Seminary. His position and background define his theological position. All of Christian education converges toward the goal of a personal conversion experience. Hence, in spite of his knowledge of current educational research, practices, and techniques, one gets to wondering how the classroom procedures differ from the "preaching services." (Not that a kindred dilemma does not confront observers in Lutheran circles!)

In areas where the author is able to depart from the restrictions of his theological position, a carefully selective reader can find much both commendable and helpful in his own effort to become an effective teaching personality. Dr. Edge clearly defines the basic laws of learning and amply illustrates them. A practical application of them suffers from the author's application of them only to uniform Sunday school lesson materials and current church school practices within his own denomination.

Philadelphia DONALD R. PICHASKE

Meet These Men. By Clovis G. Chappell. Abingdon. 156 pages. $2.

From Abraham and Jacob to Paul and Onesimus, these 14 biographical sermons run the gamut of Bible personalities.

SYNOD CONVENTIONS

TWENTY-SEVEN of the 32 United Lutheran synods had completed their annual conventions by the end of May. Most of the 1956 sessions heard success stories about church activities during the past year. A record-breaking number of new congregations had been organized. Membership and attendances increased at an above-average rate, and contributions have been at an all-time high level.

Some synods created new full-time offices for supervision of their home missions, parish education, or stewardship promotion. Some made plans to raise special funds for their colleges or seminaries, and to acquire or enlarge summer camps.

A half-dozen synods meeting in May spoke on such questions as welcoming Negroes into all-white congregations. A few debated theological questions such as the proper place of celebration of the Lord's Supper in parish life.

CARIBBEAN

Holy Trinity Church, Frederiksted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, May 20-22

By FRANCISCO MOLINA

"LUTHER SAID: 'Here I stand!' Men of the Caribbean Synod, stand with him! Carry the banner of Lutheranism high." This impassioned plea that reflected the spirit of the convention of the Caribbean Synod came from a very old man, Amos Benjamin, of St. Thomas.

PRESIDENT EDUARDO ROIG and Treasurer Gilberto Graciani were re-elected. The Rev. Victor Astacio was elected secretary. A record budget was adopted.

Action was taken instructing the executive committee to install the Rev. Arnold Wuertz when he comes in the summer, a to study the possibility of: (1) starting m sion work in two new housing developme in the San Juan metropolitan area and the south coast of Puerto Rico; (2) buildi the first unit of the synod camp "as soon possible"; (3) moving the synod archives a place of maximum security.

PRESIDENT EDUARDO ROIG
Re-elected

Other action included: the raising of t per capita benevolence apportionment fr $7.80 to $10, reception of the Rev. Ha Nuudi as a member of synod, approval the proposed relocation of Bethany Chur Puerto Rico, and budgetary provision for creased aid to ministerial students in vi of recent action by the ULCA cutting funds for this purpose except in extre emergencies.

Statistics showed modest gains in memb ship and stewardship in 1955. We are number one synod in the ULCA in ratio communing to confirmed members, it reported.

. G. Lawrence Himmelman, ULCA
sentative, won the heart of the conven-
with his inspiring presentations of the
of the church. Special commendation
from President Roig for Pauline
er, matron of the Queen Louise Home.
re appreciation was expressed for the
nued help of the ULCA through the
l of American Missions, Publication
e, and the Committee on Spanish Pub-
ons.

PECTS OF THIS convention that will be
remembered: the hospitality of the host
egation and the Queen Louise Home
he inspiring service of holy communion
which the convention opened . . . Dr.
nelman's sermon on "The Glory of the
ch" . . . the Frederiksted, Christiansted,
Moravian combined choirs' rendition of
n's "The Heavens Are Telling" . . . the
e of dedication of the new organ at
iansted . . . the Lutheran laymen's
et at the La Grange dining hall. At-
nce was perfect.

JLCA CONVENTION DELEGATES
Rev. Eduardo Roig, Mr. Darnley Peterson.

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

ce Church, Lancaster, May 21-23

By ERNEST J. HOH

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD turned
a recommendation from its executive
ttee to provide hospitalization insur-
or all pastors. The objection raised
at such provision belonged to the re-
bility of the local congregation. On
ner hand, the synod memorialized the
Lutheran Church to keep pensions
cial Security separate.

synod set up the office of full-time
ry of Christian education. Restric-
terms of office for all staff members
moved and retirement age for officers
at 68. Formerly the president of
was limited to two five-year terms.

OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT
Central Penn Secretary Ralph Robinson accepts $300 check from synod's newest mission, Epiphany, Paxtonia. Rev. Charles Ruby makes presentation as congregation is received into synod.

Impressive reports of progress were made by boards and committees and the vitality of the synodical program was evident in countless ways. Official representative of the United Lutheran Church was Dr. F. Eppling Reinartz, secretary of the ULC. He spoke to a large group of laymen at a breakfast meeting, with the result that ten new members signed up in the Lutheran Laymen's Movement.

Dr. Paul C. Empie, executive secretary of the National Lutheran Council, described the work of Lutheran World Action. The Rev. Paul L. Reaser, president of the York Conference, in the sermon at the ordination service spoke of the word "minister" as a noun desiring to explode into action, and as a verb whose actions desired to be incarnated in a person. Dr. Charles H. Reinbrecht, a missionary on furlough from Hong Kong, said "Communism is not winning the hearts of people of China."

THREE NEW CHURCHES were received into membership: Epiphany, Harrisburg; Zion, Mt. Pleasant Hills; and Mt. Carmel, Ogletown. Twelve men were ordained to the ministry and seven more recommended for ordination before the next meeting of synod.

An innovation at this convention was the holding of the communion service apart from the convention proper, in the morning of the day on which the convention opened in the afternoon. Synod President Dwight F. Putman explained that "there is nothing official about the communion, and it should never be thought of as a part of the official program of the meeting of synod. Of course it is not 'required.'" He stated that "it would not seem proper to limit the invitation to commune to the official delegates." He criticized the "belief that a communion service at the time of a synodical convention has some organizational utility or official purpose."

Another change in future operations was made by a change in the constitution and by-laws enabling ordinands to be ordained in their home churches or in the churches to which they have been called or at a special service.

Synod Secretary Ralph C. Robinson reported increases in contributions in 1955 totaling 114 per cent of the benevolence apportionment and 115 per cent of the Lutheran World Action quota. Total giving in 1955 exceeded $1,808,335.

Nineteen workshops on the territory of the synod during September will be devoted to the encouragement of young men and women to enter full-time Christian service.

Permission was granted to the large Allegheny Conference to divide into East and West Allegheny Conferences.

The synod approved an appeal for $500,000 for Susquehanna University for the construction of a music building and enlargement of the library.

FLORIDA

St. Mark's Church, Coral Gables, May 14-17

By CHARLES F. STECK, JR.

Largest attendance at a synod convention in the Florida Synod's history was recorded this year. Three new congregations —Christ, Fort Lauderdale; St. John Riviera Beach, and St. Paul's, Sarasota were received into synodical membersh Pastors Paul E. Arnold (West Palm Beach Robert E. Grefe (Hollywood), Harvey Hartman (St. Augustine), Joseph Hunt (New Smyrna Beach), Prof. Richard Hoefler (Southern Seminary), Frank Pelkonen (from the Finnish Evangeli Lutheran Church), mission developer, Pe sacola, and Paul A. Weidley, mission veloper, Tampa, were received into synod.

With the addition of these congre tions and clerical members the synod n numbers 33 congregations, a gain of 13 five years, and 32 pastors, also a gain 13 in the same length of time. Synod Pre dent Royall A. Yount reported the assi ment of eight new fields by the Florida gional committee on missions of the N tional Lutheran Council for possible cupancy by the Florida Synod.

In the synodical budget the amount ULCA apportionment was increased 12 cent over last year and the amount for s odical expense was almost 22 per cent larg Total budget of $77,409 was adopted.

G. Allan Dash, Jr. of Philadelphia member of the ULCA Executive Board, the United Lutheran Church representat at the convention. He was the first layn to represent the church at a meeting of Florida Synod.

A subscription campaign for $20,0 for a Lutheran student center at the Univ sity of Florida was reported to have b pledged in full by congregations of synod. It was determined that the libr and reading room to be housed in the bu ing should be dedicated as a memorial to late Dr. Adam J. Holl, who was active the organization of Our Saviour's congre tion, Gainesville (near the university), past president of the synod.

The synod agreed to engage in a $50,0 campaign for capital improvements and dowments for Newberry College and Southern Seminary in 1959-60.

Officers of the synod were re-elected.

IOWA

St. Paul's Church, Clinton, May 21-24

By ALFRED J. BEIL

EE NEW CONGREGATIONS, representing dult members, were received into the Synod during its 102nd annual conven- Trinity Church, Estherville, was an ndent congregation before its recep- to synod. Immanuel, Camanche, and Cedar Rapids, are mission congrega- organized since the last convention.

Conrad Bergendoff, president of Au- a College, Rock Island, Ill., addressed nvention on "Variations of Lutheran- America." "Lutherans of America reed that the inner unity of members e important than an external form of zation, and that probably no other ant body has greater internal unity ne Lutherans," he said. "This unity ld on a common faith and common of worship."

seminary graduates were ordained. ev. Maurice Lesher of the convention and father of one of the graduates, ed the ordination sermon. The or- are: Philip B. Bigelow, Chicago ry, pastor at St. Andrew's Church, ay City, Ind.; Richard G. Christen- ntral Seminary, mission developer to the shoreline area of Seattle, Wash.; M. Lesher, Gettysburg Seminary, as- pastor of St. Mark's Church, Daven- ohn P. Hartzell, Chicago Seminary, t pastor of Trinity Church, Sioux obert E. Karsten, Chicago Seminary, of Trinity Church, Estherville.

ENTION CHAPLAIN was Dr. G. E. professor at Augustana Seminary, land, Ill. He addressed the conven- "More Effective Preaching."

George F. Harkins, assistant to the president, was the ULCA representa- the banquet address he stressed the of evangelism. "Church members'

SPEAKER AT IOWA SYNOD
Dr. Conrad Bergendoff

enthusiasm and concern for the souls of those outside the church is sometimes as cool as their interest in the cost of pig iron, and hardly ever as keen as their interest in sports and politics," he said.

An appreciation gift was given to Mr. John Berger who has served as synod treasurer for 30 years. As a part of his report, he quoted figures to indicate the progress that has been made during the period of his service. "During the past five years, the total moneys handled amounted to more than the first 25 years." He stated that during the past five years synod paid $427,800 to the ULCA, while during the 25 previous years it amounted to $423,317. Mr. Berger was also honored by his congregation, First Church, Cedar Rapids, on May 20.

During the convention, recognition was also given to the Rev. William Swarbrick, who resigned from St. Mark's, Dubuque, to become one of the area directors of Lutheran Evangelism; and to the Rev. Raymond Tiemeyer who is resigning from St. Luke's, Sioux City, to become an assistant to Dr. Franklin C. Fry on July 1.

Dr. Ralph Livers, retired synod pastor living in Fremont, Neb., was given a 50-year pin and his name was placed on the honor roll with four other pastors.

The youth committee stressed the need for synod to own and operate a camp. The committee reported that 300 young people are annually participating in the camp program at Lake Okoboji. Their figures based on population growth and church membership increases indicated that camp accommodations would be needed for 1,000 campers by 1965. Delegates authorized the synodical board to investigate camp sites and, if necessary, call for a reconvened convention session in September to take necessary action to purchase a site.

MARYLAND

Gettysburg Seminary, May 21-24

By WILSON P. ARD

EMPLOYMENT of a full-time director of missions and stewardship was approved by the synod, increasing the number of full-time officers to three.

Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, president of the United Lutheran Church, described the present situation and plans of the boards and agencies of the church. "Only thirty-four mission organizers will be called next year, due to a lack of funds," said President Fry reporting on the Board of American Missions and urging congregations to increase contributions to this work.

In speaking for the Board of Social Missions, Dr. Fry said, "It is a disgrace that the church has waited for every other organization in the community to speak out on the matter of desegregation."

"The diaconate cannot be the only source of supply for full-time Christian workers," said President Fry after pointing out that 45 candidates are now in training. Sister Martha Hansen, director of the Baltimore Deaconess Training School, pointed to the many calls for full-time workers which cannot be filled.

Regarding foreign missions Dr. Fry s that "in Malaya we are coming cheek jowl with communism . . . India is the tou stone. The church should rush reinfo ments as rapidly as possible." The spea pointed out that the spread of the chu must come from leaders of the church the field and that a survey indicated we have five such leaders in India.

THE SYNOD approved the purchase o camp site and conference center in the mo tains of West Virginia at a cost not to exc $10,000 as recommended by the Commi on Parish Education. The Executive Bo will inspect this site and, if approved, purchase will be made.

On recommendation of the ministeri and approved by the synod, a committe to be appointed to study the scriptural, torical, theological, and psychological v dity of anointing the sick.

Improper use of vestments and ministe garb by seminary students was brought by Pastor Donald F. Brake, Baltimore, said students in the seminary "are laym not ordained pastors." The Executive Bo is to make a study and offer recommen tions in this matter.

A classroom in a new building at Susq hanna University will be established by synod in memory of Dr. Benjamin F. K for many years editor of *The Lutheran server*, prominent in the organization of Maryland Synod, and the leader respons for founding the Missionary Institute, Susquehanna University.

The first evangelism mission in the sy has been completed in the Eastern S area, said the Rev. Francis Myers, regi director. Attendance at this mission to four times the confirmed membership o churches. "The evangelism missions are h ing lay people to rediscover their potential for witnessing," said Pastor M

Fifteen seminary students are now gaged in the intern program, said Dr. H F. Baughman, president of Gettysburg S nary. Dr. Abdel Ross Wentz, former p dent of the seminary and a member of

for 40 years, retiring this year, was
ned on several occasions during the
meeting when tribute was paid to him
his long and influential career as
r and president.

ase work department has been estab-
at Tressler Home for Children, Loys-
Pa. The Rev. Justus H. Liesmann,
ntendent, stated that one-half of their
n now come from broken homes.

ew congregation, Faith Church, Salis-
Md., organized May 20, was received
e synod. Pastor is John L. Strube, Jr.

ained to the ministry were Henry K.
Eugene A. Bardner, Herbert W.
Carey A. Moore, Donald F. Sause,
Frederick.

ributions of the synod for Lutheran
Action were $70,515 or 107.6 per
quota.

ordinary is miraculous in the sight
," said Synod President Dr. J. Frank
his opening sermon on "The Holy
."

Elwood S. Falkenstein was re-elected
secretary. Dr. F. R. Seibel was re-
statistician. During the year synod
es gained 3,160 baptized members,
onfirmed, 1,600 communicant. Total
rships 104,526 baptized; 72,053 con-
48,531 communicant. However, it
d 40 confirmed members to gain one
nfirmed member.

contributions were $4,276,260.
e contribution per confirmed member
4.26 current expenses; $10.19 benev-
; $24.89 unusual expenses; total
For communicant members the total
was $88.11.

LCA CONVENTION DELEGATES

CGYMEN: Carl R. Simon, Roland W.
L. Ralph Tabor, Carl C. Rasmussen,
W. Carlson, Howard J. McCarney,
S. Falkenstein, Abdel Ross Wentz,
F. Trunk, Paul H. Smith, J. Frank Fife.

EN: Carl Heinmuller, Jr., Fred W.
n, Fred J. Sendelbach, Earl P. Fertig,
F. Gerlach, Carl L. Schaeffer, John L.
Morris Zumbrun, Joel L. Barbehenn,
l. Kleinfelter, Virgil W. Doub.

PENNA. MINISTERIUM

Buck Hill Falls Inn, May 20-24

By HENRY W. SNYDER, JR.

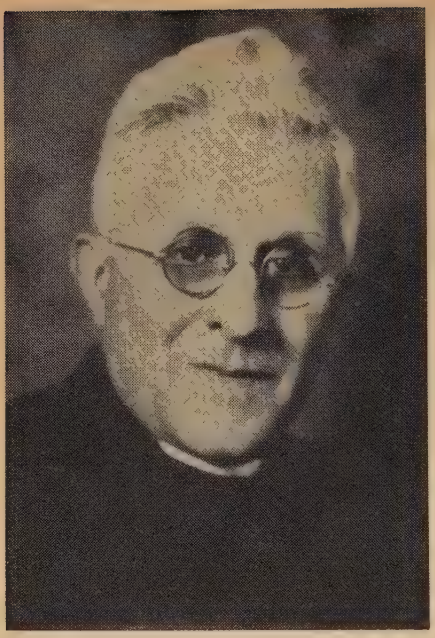
THE MINISTERIUM OF PENNSYLVANIA'S biggest 1956 question—What is proper in the administration of Holy Communion?—has been deferred for action until its 1957 convention.

There were two vigorous debates about the matter and considerable parliamentary maneuvering, but Lutheranism's oldest synod in America finally voted to refer the controversial communion report to a "committee of representative pastors" for further study. The committee was instructed to report at next year's convention.

The synod's executive board, along with Mt. Airy Seminary faculty members, had submitted a report as a "guide for pastors and church councils." Synod President Charles M. Cooper emphasized that it was not meant to be "canon law." Questioned by Judge James Henninger, Dr. Cooper said that no disciplinary action would be taken against a pastor who, with the approval of his church council and congregation, deviated from the practices set forth in the report.

BUT DEBATE on the report was cut off when it was voted, 333-136, that it be referred to the committee of pastors. Before the final vote was taken, Dr. Theodore Tappert, Mt. Airy professor, said that refusal to act "would be an evasion of our responsibility." He asserted that "any 'tension or friction' was not the result of this report, but the cause of it." President Cooper said that he was amazed that in many quarters the terminology of the report and perhaps its intent had been misunderstood.

But others, including Dr. Hagen Staack of Muhlenberg College, asked that consideration of the report be postponed. Dr. Staack said that "the matters of doctrine and theology that are involved are so important that we don't have time to consider them properly at this session."



DR. G. H. BECHTOLD
Completing long career in Inner Missions

In the report was a statement that "educational institutions . . . do not, in this day of easy transportation and access, require opportunities to commune additional to those afforded in congregations." Also at issue were communion at weddings, communions exclusively for ordinands, and special communions for families at times of crises.

Earlier a "minority report," prepared by Dr. Luther D. Reed, had been circulated in the convention. Dr. Reed said, "We are in sympathy with the effort to correct abuses. We agree with much that is stated. (But) we regard much of the report, as presented, unnecessary and unwise."

NOT QUITE so controversial was the report of the committee to survey the structure and function of synod. The committee presented a detailed plan of reorganization of the synod into 20 districts, each with a "dean" and a secretary. Synod voted that the committee "proceed with its work in substantial accordance with the structure as proposed in this report." The qualifying adjective, "substantial," had been added by an amendme

Delegates approved a synod-wide ca paign, beginning Jan. 1, for $750,000 to pand the services of the Germantown Hon Quotas for each conference will be det mined by the number of guests from th area cared for at the home during the l three years. Congregational commitme toward the conference quota will be det mined by communing membership.

The convention adopted a six-point rep from the synod stewardship committee, cluding a statement urging all congregati to contribute 50 cents to the Ministeriu budgeted benevolence for every $1 expend in the local congregation's current progra This is intended as "a guide, not a quot but the convention sought to implement t goal by approving a synodical visitati among congregations for the fall of 1957.

The synod approved without change suggested 1957 budget of $2,009,825, an crease of $34,862 over 1956. Sixty-five cent of amount budgeted is for the ULC

(*Continued on page 46*)

NEW JERSEY

St. John's Church, Ocean City, May 21-23

By RALPH I. SHOCKEY

MAJOR DISCUSSIONS at the seventh ann convention of the New Jersey Synod c tered around affiliation with the New Jer Council of Churches, racial integration congregations, relation of the ULCA pens program to social security, and disposit of surplus funds from the synod's succes tri-objective appeal.

"There was a time when we Luther stood apart, fearing 'contamination' fr other churches. Thank God, that day passed and we know we have something portant to contribute to the great movem of Christianity," declared Dr. William Weaver, veteran of 57 years in the minis as favorable action climaxed the de about joining the New Jersey Council.

WELCOMING NEWCOMERS IN NEW JERSEY

nt Edwin H. Knudten (left) receives into New Jersey Synod four new missions and one newly d congregation during Ocean City session. Pastors and lay delegates represent congregations.

s had questioned the synod's ability tribute financially and whether Luther- uld endorse some of the interdenomi- al social and economic pronounce-

al integration did not provoke pro- debate. The four-point program pro- by the Board of Social Missions was d with the spirit of the convention "we must in every congregation keep ors of membership open to all re- s of race or color. Our evangelism e as all-embracing as the Gospel."

255 registered delegates voted to ialize the ULCA to "continue the on of its pension plan and procedure rgymen apart from the Federal Old d Survivors Insurance program."

P Beisler and home missions will qually in undesignated funds received ae surplus of the Tri-Objective Appeal. stimated that approximately $10,000 available for distribution after 18 gations complete their quotas.

George R. F. Tamke, statistician, in- the growth of the synod—a net gain 7 baptized members in 1955 and a 11,746 since 1950 with 10 new con- ns contributing toward the increase. orted that an average synodical con- n consists of 600 baptized, 396 con- and 271 communicant members.

Four mission congregations were admitted into the synod—St. Luke's, Washington; Good Shepherd, Florham Park; St. Stephen's, South Plainfield; and Faith, Lavallette.

George C. Derner, called to St. John's Church, Englewood, and Edwin R. Eastman, to St. Paul's Church, Beachwood, were ordained by Dr. Edwin H. Knudten, synodical president, with the assistance of the Rev. William Niebanck, Dr. C. Donald Heft, and the Rev. Carl Nagele.

Approval was given for the purchase of an $18,000 parsonage for the Secretary of Parish Education and Home Missions, the Rev. Godfrey Alberti.

The stewardship sector project for 1957 received the approval of the delegates. Steady growth in stewardship consciousness is indicated by 102 congregations giving more than 100 per cent apportionment.

An 18 per cent increase in subscriptions for The Lutheran was reported, with 31 congregations of the 140 having 100 per cent enrollment.

Dr. F. L. Conrad, president of the North Carolina Synod, was ULCA representative. Dr. Stewart W. Herman, secretary of the Division of Lutheran World Federation Affairs of the NLC, commended the synod for raising 106 per cent of its LWA quota. He stressed the urgent need of more mission

work in South American countries. The Rev. Reginald Dietz, assistant to the president and professor at Gettysburg Seminary, also addressed the convention.

Concern was expressed for the Rev. Paul Mackensen, Jr., ULCA missionary interned in Red China. A motion was unanimously passed requesting President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles to continue their efforts to secure his release.

The 1957 budget totaling $364,705 was adopted. Dr. C. Ronald Heft, Oaklyn, was re-elected secretary and Dr. H. Torrey Walker re-elected treasurer, each for the sixth consecutive term.

The synod voted to extend an invitation to the ULCA to hold its 1960 biennial convention in Atlantic City providing satisfactory arrangements can be made.

ULCA CONVENTION DELEGATES

CLERGYMEN: G. E. Alberti, Arnold Dahlquist, Frederick Fairclough, Harold Haas, C. D. Heft, E. H. Knudten, G. T. Miller, W. H. Niebanck, F. A. Paules, C. F. Rinck, Jr., A. P. Stauderman, P. T. Warfield, R. Z. Wuchter, Harry Young.

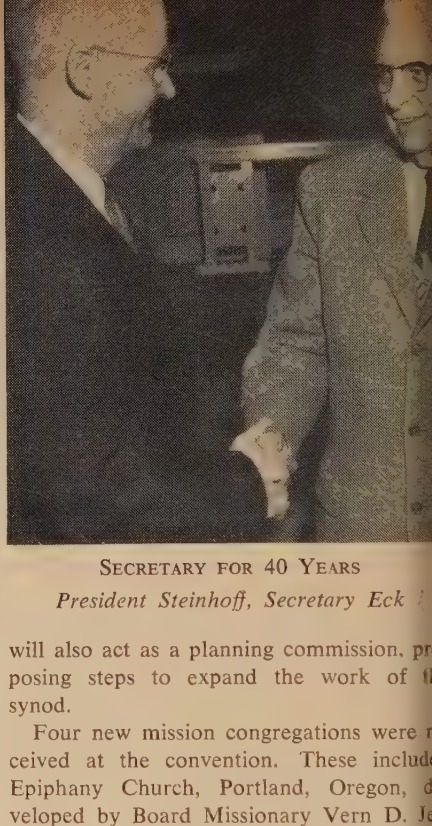
LAYMEN: Henry Beisler, George Brauninger, Mrs. Walter Coester, Eugene Kelchner, Alfred Kiefer, Howard Kontje, H. P. Rung, W. G. Scheina, Fred Simmel, William Stover, Henry Waitz, H. T. Walker, Edward Williamson, Paul Ziegler.

PACIFIC

Trinity Church, Longview, Wash., May 14-17

By PAUL W. FUNK

BORROWING A PAGE from the United Lutheran Church, the 56th convention of the Pacific Synod took steps to establish an 11-man commission to study the structure of synod with a view toward streamlining to meet the needs of this rapidly growing mission area. The commission, elected by ballot, is composed of six pastors and five laymen. It will not only make a study of the constitutional structure of the synod, but will also act as a planning commission, proposing steps to expand the work of the synod.



SECRETARY FOR 40 YEARS

President Steinhoff, Secretary Eck

Four new mission congregations were received at the convention. These include Epiphany Church, Portland, Oregon, developed by Board Missionary Vern D. Jeffers; Church of Our Saviour, Eugene, Oregon, organized by Missionary Robert Henkel; Calvary Church, Hillsboro, Oregon, organized by Missionary John L. Baglien and St. Andrew's Church, Bellevue (Eastgate), Washington, organized by Missionary Donald A. Clinton. These brought the roll of congregations up to 58.

The statistician, the Rev. Alfred Mendehall, reported that the Pacific Synod has tripled its size in the past ten years. Communing membership for the first time has gone over the 10,000 mark. In 1946 3,2[illegible] communing members made up the 26 congregations then in existence. In the past year baptized and confirmed membership increased 12 per cent while communicant membership advanced 15 per cent.

HIGHLIGHTING the convention was the Wednesday evening banquet, which was planned to honor Dr. Walter I. Eck, who

·ed 40 years as secretary of the synod ho was elected for his 41st year at nvention. Testimonial speeches were by many who had known and worked Dr. Eck during his ministry and work retary of synod. Surprise of the eve- came when the last speaker turned out his wife. A plaque commemorating ears of service was presented to Dr. *see cover picture*).

e Rev. Joseph Deibert, member of the now serving the church in Argentina, on the missionary program as it is d out in the South American country. suggestion made by the synodical Ex- e Board that a full-time stewardship ıry might be called was put on the or at least a year when the convention to reject a "Venture Budget" that have included funds to make such ce possible.

Rev. L. H. Steinhoff, who had been ly ill preceding the convention, was t to conduct the sessions. The con- ı returned to office, beside Dr. Eck, ill Nordling as treasurer and the Rev. Mendenhall as statistician. The Rev. . Cauble, St. Mark's, Salem, Oregon, ected president of the Southern Con- . The Rev. H. Stanley Holman, Cen- urch, Seattle, Washington, was elected nt of the Northern Conference.

Carl V. Tambert, president of the Southwest Synod, was ULCA rep- tive. The Rev. Edward E. Hummon, of University Church, Seattle, was tion chaplain.

EXAS-LOUISIANA

t United Church, Dallas, Texas, May 21-24

By JAMES F. VORKOPER

N Mission Committee Chairman J. M. r called the mission pastors to the f First United Church during his ew's report, it seemed that most synod pastors were advancing to the chancel! Twenty-one of the 40 pastors serving parishes are mission pastors. There are 49 pastors on the synod roll, including three retired pastors.

Five new pastors were received into synod. Our Saviour's Church, Tyler, joined the synod officially, pending organization on June 24. Several other missions were reported nearly ready for the step of incorporation into synod.

Jack W. Lundin, Chicago Seminary graduate called as mission developer, was ordained during the convention. Dr. Lewis P. Speaker preached the ordination sermon, "Fools for Christ's Sake." A Hamma Divinity School graduate, Manfred Holck, also called as mission developer, will be ordained in Austin on June 3.

Warm debate kept the air conditioner working hard when a resolution came before synod to curtail the work of the synodical contractor who has been building parsonages, house chapels and mission units. The flash that heated the argument was action of a year ago which required mission congregations to use the synodical architect and synodical contractor. Those desiring to use these services on a voluntary basis won the vote, but left the synod with a dilemma. The salary of the contractor must now be placed on the synodical budget, and no provision has been made in the 1956 budget.

Treasurer Ted Teel reported that the apportionment to the United Lutheran Church and Lutheran World Action were met in full. Total receipts from synodical congregations amounted to $94,562. The largest budget in synod history was voted for 1957.

Re-elected to synodical offices were: Vice President Nathaniel H. Kern, Victoria; Secretary John A. Jacobs, Cuero; Treasurer Ted T. Teel, Dallas. Also elected were: Statistician Walter D. Galbraith, Lake Charles, La.; Archivist J. C. Pfenninger, Shiner; executive committee member, David F. Cooper, Austin. President Royal E. Lesher's term did not expire.

Delegates voted an extra month's vacation

for President Lesher, who has not fully recovered from a recent illness. Gifts were also presented to the president and his wife during the convention banquet.

Dr. William F. Zimmerman of Midland College, Fremont, Neb., told the synod that Midland has been operating in the black for three years, the first time in the institution's history. Dr. Zimmerman represented the ULCA at the Texas-Louisiana convention.

The Rev. M. L. Lundquist, president of the Texas Conference of the Augustana Church, spoke on "Trends in Social Welfare." "Redemption does not come by decision of the Kremlin or from Washington, but in colloquies where Christians encourage one another to go forth in service to their fellowmen," he said. He also pointed out the need for chaplains to serve in state institutions.

"Health and welfare have become the responsibility of the whole community. Today our nation's families share over 20 billions of dollars a year to provide for the special, social, economic and health needs of their neighbors. No less than 85 per cent of this money comes from tax funds," he said.

The Rev. George A. Housewright, rector of region six of the Lutheran Evangelism Mission, served as convention chaplain using "Share Christ Today" as his theme. In his description of the missions that have been held so far, the word "terrific" describes the results. A new Pentecost has come to our United Lutheran Church, he declared. Never before have some of our Texas congregations realized the joy and power of personal witnessing to their faith in Jesus Christ.

The Texas-Louisiana Synod held the honor of the highest percentage of gain in subscriptions to The Lutheran, Chairman Walter Galbraith reported. Fourteen congregations are 100 per cent subscribers.

A new constitution was read which will be adopted at the 1957 convention. Changes among new items were the organization of the synod into conferences and the re-varying of the camp committee.

ULCA CONVENTION DELEGATES

CLERGYMEN: W. J. Hoebel, D. A. Jens, R. E. Lesher, P. L. Wahlberg, Jr.

LAYMEN: Gus Albers, Robert Gump, H. Hoisington, George Ranes.

A Texan Greeting

President Lesher welcomes Dr. William Zimmerman

ULC church in Idaho's Mormon country stands against background of Rocky Mountains

First ULC Church Dedicated in State of Idaho

By ARTHUR E. WULF

TLAND—The first United Lutheran in Idaho, a state with a predominMormon population, was dedicated 29. Good Shepherd congregation in llo, organized in 1950, built the church is dominated by a 40-foot high free g cross. Pastor of the congregation Rev. Paul W. Funk.

d Shepherd is the oldest of the ULC's congregations in Idaho. Redeemer in Boise was organized in 1952. Church in Horseshoe Bend followed venty-three charter members in May

young Pocatello congregation has made its voice heard in the state. At erence on the development of young called by Idaho's governor, Robert lie, two of the 120 members on the were from Good Shepherd Church. was Pastor Funk who has been active outh program of National Lutheran churches in southeastern Idaho over six years.

other was Dr. David Bowers, manlitor of the *Idaho State Journal*, who helped in the planning of the state-wide conference.

THREE NEW congregations were added to the synod's roster this spring. Our Saviour Church was organized April 22 in Eugene, Ore, with 64 confirmed members. Pastor of the congregation formed in the Wilakenzie district is the Rev. Robert L. Henkel, who developed the mission.

Calvary Church in Hillsboro, Ore., was formed April 29 with 104 confirmed members by the Rev. John L. Baglien. Dr. Charles B. Foelsch, president of the ULC Board of American Missions, spoke at the organizational service.

St. Andrew's Church was organized May 13 in the Eastgate section of Seattle, Wash., with 71 confirmed members. Synod President L. H. Steinhoff conducted the service. Mission developer is the Rev. Donald Clinton.

A new mission is being started on the Oregon side of the Columbia River, at Cascade Locks. Name for the future congregation is Church of the Cross. Developer for the mission is Pastor John S. Fullmer who

PLANNING TO GIVE HOMES TO DPs. If two families of displaced persons from Europe find a home in Washington it will be due to the initiative taken by Luther Leaguers of Shepherd of the Hills Church in Stevenson. They brought Lutheran Refugee Service Representative Edward Flatness (center) to their town to talk to prospective sponsors Luther Morgan, bakery owner, and Mrs. Annette Hutchinson, owner and operator of a lodge. Luther Leaguers Vernett Hoffman and Mary Joe Cloe (standing) attracted interest of sponsors by placing advertisements in classified section of local newspaper.

WASHINGTON-OREGON . . .

serves a mission organized only last yea the other side of the river, Shepherd of Hills at Stevenson, Wash. Pastor Fullm working in the area of the Columbia G near Bonneville Dam.

DEDICATION of Sitka Hospital, man by the Pacific Synod through Sister Poertsch, was set for May 27. The hos began operating in April. Speaker for dedication ceremony was the governo Alaska.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE of Shepherd of Hills Church, Stevenson, has taken the p lem of relocating displaced persons serio They invited Area Director Edward Flat to interview prospective sponsors and tained at least five assurances. Ads pl in the classified section of the local n paper attracted inquiries from several pe (*See picture at left.*)

Other churches ready to sponsor refu are Central Lutheran Church, Mo Wash., which made applications for families, and St. Paul's, Vancouver, W which has provided assurances for one ily. Already processed is the applic from St. Andrew's Church, Portland, w expects the family it sponsored to a soon.

Budding new congregation at Eugene, Oregon

NIA SYNOD MISSION in Knoxville, Tenn., organized March 25 took name of Gloria Dei . This mission, developed by Pastor Gerald G. North, meets in South Knoxville funeral chapel.

CKY-TENNESSEE

storic Church Observes Sesquicentennial in June

By ROGER G. IMHOFF

ISVILLE—One of the oldest Lutheran gations west of Virginia celebrated th anniversary this month. Hopeful ı in Florence, Ky., scheduled sesquiıial observances June 10-17. Pastor is v. Wilford C. Butt.

ıt speakers are Dr. G. D. Busch, president; Pastor Harold G. Beemon, ntine, Mich., a son of the congregaıd Pastor James W. Miller.

eful Church was established in 1806 ıeran families from Madison County, hey had been members of Hebron , Madison, organized in 1717, and hed the church in the beech forests thern Kentucky. Today the church e midst of rapidly growing Florence, ımunity which includes Cincinnati

CHURCH, Franklin, Ky., was hon- its community work. The Univer- Kentucky's rural work department ecial recognition to Pastor Virgil ıd his congregation for establishment of a public park last year on grounds owned by the congregation. The park is being used extensively by 4-H clubs.

THREE SYNOD PASTORS observed 40 years each in the ministry last month. Special recognition was given at the synod convention to Dr. I. W. Gernert, First Church, Nashville; Dr. Clayton Robertson, Calvary Church, Louisville, and Dr. J. E. Stomberger, Hebron, Ky.

SECTOR PROGRAMS received emphasis in three synod areas late in May. Coming from Texas was Dr. H. C. Hoisington, LLM assistant director. He spoke in Nashville, Louisville, and Newport.

RECENT ANNIVERSARIES include the 84th at First Church, Louisville, June 3. John W. Kerrick was installed as assistant to Pastor John Evans.

Holy Trinity Church, Nashville, led by Pastor John Keister, observed its 10th anniversary May 27 . . . Chaplain F. O. Taffel marked his 10th year at Nichols Veterans Hospital, Louisville, May 17.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE . . .

Third Church, Louisville, dedicated a new parsonage for Pastor and Mrs. John Grohne May 27 . . . Installed were Otto J. Emmelhainz, Jr., at St. John's Church, Melbourne, Ky., May 6; Pastor Robert Castle, former president of the West Virginia Synod, at Zion Church, Covington, June 10, and Bernard W. Crocker June 10 at St. Luke's Church, Cold Springs, Ky.

ILLINOIS

Serious Lack of Social Workers Called to Attention of Churches

By JOHN E. COOPERRIDER

CHICAGO—Three of the Illinois Synod's inner mission agencies stressed the urgent need for social workers at the meeting of the Illinois Synod in St. Louis.

United Lutheran Social Mission Society reported that the society "had to go outside the church to secure its social work staff."

It warned that "the lack of trained social workers in the church, and particularly of those interested in working with older people, is at a critical state."

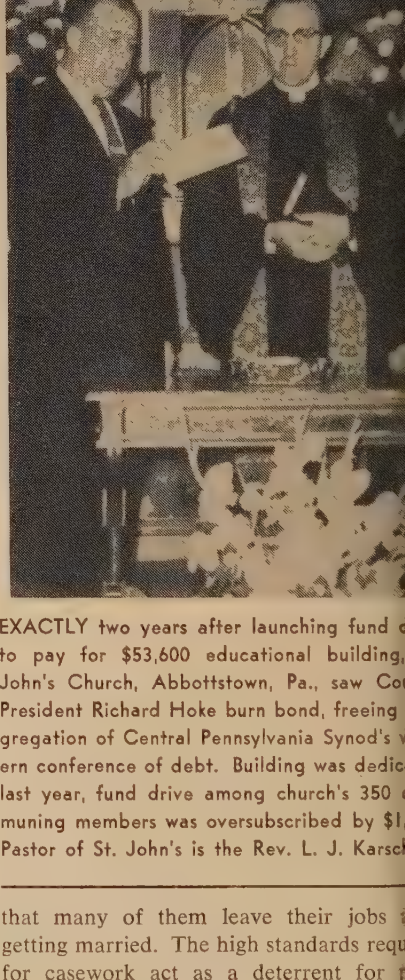
The report of the Lutheran Home Finding Society of Illinois pointed up the critical nature of the problem. "There are 15 jobs available for each caseworker," it said.

Nachusa Lutheran Home for Children appealed to pastors and delegates to be on the alert for people within their congregations who are qualified to serve as social workers.

When asked by this reporter to explain the situation, the Rev. Harold W. Reisch, executive secretary of the Social Mission Society, said that "the church has not stressed the field of Christian service in terms of social work, and works of mercy." He added that the church "has failed to keep pace in remuneration with usual professional standards." In the field of social service, churches compete with secular agencies, he said.

Further reason for the shortage of social workers, Secretary Reisch said, is the fact

GOAL REACHED ON TIM



EXACTLY two years after launching fund d to pay for $53,600 educational building, John's Church, Abbottstown, Pa., saw Cou President Richard Hoke burn bond, freeing gregation of Central Pennsylvania Synod's w ern conference of debt. Building was dedic last year, fund drive among church's 350 c muning members was oversubscribed by $1, Pastor of St. John's is the Rev. L. J. Karsch

that many of them leave their jobs t getting married. The high standards requ for casework act as a deterrent for p pects. "We are not able to get the rank file of young people interested in s work," he said.

To remedy the situation, he sugge that the church "instill in young people very early age the need for caring for helpless." To accomplish this, the "min of caring for the needy" should become of "ordinary congregational life." A fu inducement would be provided if the ch gave recognition to social workers as

ng a Christian service second to none."
RE THAN 60 laymen and pastors at-
d a breakfast sponsored by the Lu-
n Laymen's Movement during the ses-
of the Illinois Synod in St. Louis to
st more men in the work of the or-
ation. Dr. L. Ralph Tabor, pastor of
Church, Baltimore, and a member of
LCA Executive Board, spoke of what
has meant to him in his life and min-
Peter H. Anderson of St. Louis ar-
d the program and presided.

MBER AGENCIES of the Lutheran Chari-
ederation received $287,735 for 1956
the Community Fund of Chicago, an
se of $49,042 or 20.5 per cent over
evious year.

Since the average increase for all agencies participating in the Community Fund was 5.07 per cent, the allocation indicated the importance attributed by the Community Fund to the Lutheran welfare program.

CHURCH of the Good Shepherd, Oak Park, the Rev. William E. Kmet pastor, held groundbreaking services on May 6 for a $120,000 educational unit.

St. Peter's Church of the Liberty parish, the Rev. Robert L. Nelson pastor, rededicated the church on May 20 after completing a major building and renovation project.

St. John's Church, Meredosia, the Rev. Louis F. Rodenbeck pastor, rededicated a newly decorated church on May 6.

(*Continued on page 43*)

hio Church Develops New Architectonic Concept

A "Church of the Chapels" was dedicated May 13 in Dayton, Ohio. Designed by Philadelphia Architect T. Norman Mansell, Westwood Lutheran Church has developed the idea of using chapels instead of classrooms for its Sunday school.

Attached to the nave (left) are five ground-level chapels each serving as a separate Sunday school department and accommodating several classes. Altar

vorship center are
points of interest in
department. Groups
o for Bible reading
astruction period

cost of the church
g occupying almost
y block was $350,000.
ccommodates 450.
thing for dedication
io Synod President
W. Miley. Pastor
Rev. Carl Coad, his
, Arthur H. Fabian.

CAMPUS NEWS AND NOTES

THE ROYAL CANADIAN INSTITUTE $500 scholarship in natural science was awarded this year to Victoria Bergbusch, 20-year-old student at the *University of Saskatchewan.* Only one of such awards is granted annually in Canada. Miss Bergbusch, who just completed her third year in biology at the university, also won the "Great Distinction in Arts and Science," the Copland Prize, and the Special Prize in Arts and Science.

Her brother, studying at the same school, won a "High Honors" citation for English and history. The Bergbuschs are children of the Rev. Julius E. Bergbusch, former president of the Western Canada Synod, now living in Victoria, B. C.

PLANS FOR A CENTENNIAL APPEAL are being made at *Susquehanna University.*

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General practitioner, in rural isolated area for co-operative group practice, to further the development of new preventive medical work, with social situation very challenging. Write Richard Ricklefs, M.D., Community Health Association, Hoopa, California.

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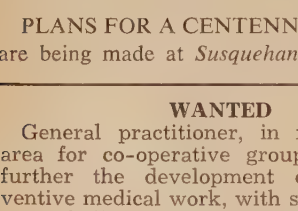

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Goal of the campaign, to start in August $700,000, target date Nov. 4. Turned o to the fund and earmarked for the mu conservatory was $38,320 raised by women's auxiliary of the university in spri

ONE OF TWO LIBERAL ARTS CO LEGES selected to receive a $20,000 cap grant from the United States Steel Foun tion was *Thiel College.* It will go to integ funds for the proposed new science build on the college's Greenville, Pa., campus.

Thiel's 90th Anniversary Developm campaign brought $660,000 in subscripti it was announced last month. Goal of campaign, to be reached by the end of 19 is $1,000,000.

Entrance examinations will be required at least 90 per cent of Thiel's applica next year, President Frederic B. Irvin nounced in May. "Although the college continually raised admission standards the past several years," he said, "our pr lem now is one of knowing how to ac the well-qualified students . . . With present facilities we feel that we should expand beyond 600 students." An assis director of admissions will be added to staff.

FAMOUS PAINTING by an unkn artist was donated by Mrs. Dorothy Ne Thompson to *Muhlenberg College* for recently opened Henry R. Mueller Memo library and seminary room. The pict Picketts' charge in the Battle of Gettysb is attributed to a member of the 19th tury Meissonier School and is considered art experts as one of America's outstan Civil War paintings.

ELECTION of Dr. Stuart Baller, demic dean of *Carthage College,* as p dent of the North Central Associatio Academic Deans was announced in Apr Chicago. Dr. Baller was chosen from deans representing colleges and univers throughout the midwest and west.

IS . . .

(*Continued from page 41*)

P ALPINE, the newly purchased sum-mp of the Illinois Synod, will be dedi-on June 24. An eight-week camping will begin the following Sunday.

or A. M. Sappenfield of Advent , Chicago, announced his retirement y after 50 years in the ministry. The Franklin Sherman, ordained at the meeting of the Illinois Synod, will pastor of Advent Church, effective

Mark's Church, Washington, Dr. Carl mmeyer pastor, has undertaken the of Miss Miriam Plitt, missionary to .

ANA-NORTH DAKOTA

oula Mission Organized
e Work Begins in Billings

By ROBERT A. BARTELS

NGS—Missions made progress in na this spring as one congregation was ed and development of another was in the state which had only seven hurches until this year.

e of Peace Church was organized in la, near Montana's Pacific coast, on . The charter list included 56 con- 95 baptized members. Northwest President Paul E. Bishop preached anization day.

young congregation is meeting in a -Day Adventist school. Its mission er, the Rev. Karl Schmidt, has been as its first pastor. The mission was 1 into the synod at its convention in kee last month.

ird ULC congregation will soon be ed in Billings. Pastor Ralph C. Sand-gan work in April in the northwest of Montana's third largest city. He considerable interest for the proposed among residents. Worship services day school will begin in fall.

TRUCTION of St. John's Church,

WANTED—PARISH WORKER

Trinity Lutheran Church, Hagerstown, Md., needs a trained young woman to serve in an established program for children and young people and also to do parish visitation. Present Parish Worker being married in August. Excellent opportunity in congregation of 1,700 members. No choir direction. Good salary. Inquiries should include training, experience, age and recent photo. Write Frank S. Leiter, 34 West Washington Street, Hagerstown, Md.

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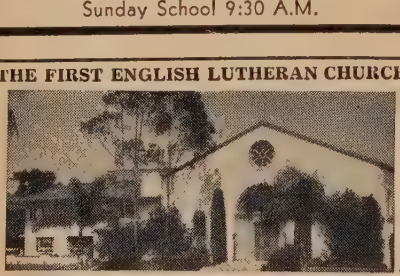

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Morning Worship, 11:00 O'clock

MONTANA-NORTH DAKOTA . . .

Fargo, N. D., got under way this sp
The congregation hopes to occupy
$120,000 edifice by fall. The Rev. A
N. Campbell is pastor.

The Rev. Frank Mayer, pastor o
John's Church, Killdeer, N. D., return
his pulpit April 29 after a three mo
leave of absence to regain his health.

A year ago the Northwest Synod m
the first time in its history in Montana.
English Church in Billings was the host
gregation. That convention had a t
effect on this year's election of ULCA
gates as the synod met in Milwaukee.
Montanans, two pastors and two la
were elected to represent the synod a
Harrisburg convention of the Unite
theran Church next October. Never b
had so many men from the synod's wi
conference received the required numb
votes to make them ULCA delegates.

ANOTHER Montana congregation

(*Continued on page 47*)

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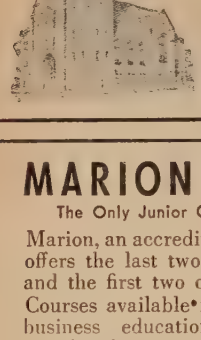

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PENNA. MINISTERIUM . . .

(*Continued from page 32*)

THE SYNOD HEARD that Muhlenberg lege will begin admitting women in the of 1957, if construction of a dormitory ceeds on schedule. Total cash received far in the Ministerium's $1,500,000 ap for the college is $926,761.40.

Special tribute was given by the syno Dr. Gustavus H. Bechtold in recognitio his service as executive secretary of Inner Mission Board since 1922. He retire at the end of this year. Dr. Co said, "He has rendered distinguished se and afforded outstanding leadership in church's work of serving love."

Five new congregations were received the Ministerium, a banner harvest for 60th anniversary year of the synod H Mission Board. The new churches ar John's, Morrisville, Pa.; St. Phillip's (I linden), Wilmington, Del.; Reforma Milford, Del.; Resurrection, Levittown Pa.; and Trinity, Towanda, Pa.

Delegates voted to memorialize the U to prepare a more appropriate order fo ordination of men coming into the Luth ministry from a ministry of another munion. Another memorial asks the U "to disregard benefits of Federal Old and Survivors' Insurance, when determ pensions."

WITHOUT DEBATE the synod adopted olution pointing to opportunities of church to minister to minority racial ethnic groups, urging its congregation "bring into the fellowship of their pa all people who live in their own neig hood."

The Ministerium revised its consti to limit the clerical roll to those p serving "under proper call and those r by reason of age or health."

Inspirational and informative add were given by Dr. Paul Empie, Dr. Moll, Dr. Robert Stackel, Dr. Edgar B Dr. Earl Erb, Dr. Oscar Carlson, Dr. W Seaman, Dr. Conrad Seegers, Dr. En O. Midboe, and Mr. Howard Logan.

ifteen young men were ordained by the
d after its formal closing, at a service
24 in St. John's Church, Allentown.

ULCA CONVENTION DELEGATES

LERGYMEN: Charles Cooper, Phares Beer, iam Berkemeyer, John Cobb, Richard Klick, Kreidler, Richard Lundin, Ernst Schmidt, l Hartman, Robert Lamparter, Guy Mcey, Luther Schlenker, Alvin Butz, Theodore ner, Edward Knapp, William Moyer, John inson, Albert Shumaker, Robert Benner, r Kramer, Charles Herman, Charles Ruloff, s Sathmary, Gunther Stippich, Francis Eds, Mark Lauchnor, Edward Lukens, Theodore ert, Corson Snyder, Bela Shetlock, Claude k, Elson Ruff, Luther Reed, Conrad Raker, erick Nolde, Samuel Kidd, Edward Horn III, Fischer, Paul Empie, Gustavus Bechtold, Henry Bagger.

AYMEN: Earl Bader, Fred Body, Ephraim tt, James Henninger, Kenneth Koch, Carl- Woodring, Otto Woltersdorf, Herman pp, Walter Hagey, Ober Hess, Russell Hille- Leonard Ashford, Sister Anna Ebert, Mil- Gladfelter, Charles Jacobs, Frederick er, Robert Weller, Franklin Horn, Harry nan, Clarence Dietrich, Harry Oxenreider, Leroy Taney, Robert Tyack, John Greiner, rge Smith, John Walters, Mrs. Roy Winters, don Williams, William Shetlock, Conrad ers, Chester Rhodes, Herbert Punchard, Punchard, Paul Hoffman, Ernst Hoeppner, Hagan, Charles Esser, Frederick Erb, Allan , Arthur Alderfer, and Oscar Wilde.

NTANA-NORTH DAKOTA . . .

(*Continued from page 44*)

ced last month that it is awaiting the ral of a refugee family from Europe. ohn's Church, Great Falls, has already red work and housing for a family, aciing to Pastor Eugene Hasselquist. This es the third church in Montana and the in the western conference within a year ponsor refugee families under the Nal Lutheran Council's resettlement pro-.

de Rev. Robert A. Bartels, pastor of lehem Church, Billings, since March

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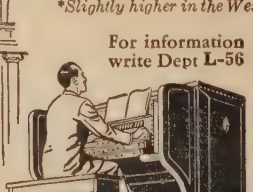

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3- 6. Western Canada. Lutheran
lege and Seminary, Saskato

8-11. Icelandic. Icelandic Luther
Church, Vancouver, B. C.,

MONTANA-NORTH DAKOTA . . .

1950, and area correspondent for THE
THERAN, has resigned his post effective
1 to accept a call from the Board o
rectors of Northwestern Seminary.
spending the summer in graduate stud
will become instructor in New Testame
the seminary in September.

VETERAN PASTOR WILLIAM H. GABLE
mitted his resignation to Holy T
Church, Tabor, Minn., effective July 1.
Gable, who served as missionary amon
Indians at Rocky Boy, Mont., for
years, now completes 51 years in the
ministry and 10 years as pastor in Tab

During his pastorate at Holy T
Church a basement was constructed
the church building and a new pars
was built.

— CHANGES OF PASTORATE

CANADA

BROUSE, PAUL. From St. John's Ch
Waterloo, Ont., assistant pastor.
Heidelberg-Erbsville parish, Ont.

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

THOMAS, ROBERT E. From St. Paul's Ch
Hanover, assistant pastor. To
(Casebeer) Church, Sipesville.

NORTH CAROLINA

BOLLINGER, THOMAS E. From St.
Church, Shively, Ky. To Messiah Ch
Salisbury.

WESTERN CANADA

OSWALD, F. S. From Trinity Church
monton, Alta. To Bethany Church,
Manitoba.

SEDO, REINHOLD. From St. Paul's Ch
Chicago. To Trinity Church, Edmo
Alta.

...MING EVANGELISM MISSIONS

17-22 Newburgh, N. Y.
Mason County, W. Va.
24-29 Bluefield, W. Va.

DECEASED

...LLIE FAHRINGER KNITTLE, widow ...r. John S. Knittle, former pastor of ... Church, Manheim, Pa., died on May ... Elizabethtown, Pa. She was 77 years ...

...rs. Knittle was a native of Catawissa, ...Her husband served the Manheim parish ... 1911 to 1948, was named pastor emeri... ...pon his retirement. He died in 1949.
...rviving are a son, Joseph L.; a daughter, ... Mary Graybill; a brother, Samuel F. ...inger; and four grandchildren.
...e funeral service at Zion Church was ...ucted May 22 by Pastor Raymond ...ner. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery, ...wissa.

... AMELIA STOLTE, nee Schaffer, wife ...r. J. Frederick Stolte, pastor emeritus ...inity Church, Bangor, Pa., died May 22.
...s. Stolte was a native of New York ... She left, beside her husband, a step-... John F. Stolte, Jr., of Bangor.
...e funeral service was held in a Bangor ...al home on May 25. Interment was at ...hn's Cemetery, Bangor.

...ATHERINE J. WENNER, widow of the ... W. E. Wenner, a former pastor of ...n Church, Walberts, Pa., died May 24 ...lentown at age 82.
...e daughter of the late Adam F. Hei... ...r. Mrs. Wenner was born in Bethlehem, ...Her husband, who died in 1952, was ...r of the Walberts church for 26 years. ...rviving are a daughter, Mrs. Mildred ...aghan; a grandson, John W. Wenner; ...ber, Charles Heiberger; and a sister, ... Minnie Strohe. Services were held ...28 at an Allentown funeral home.

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IN CONCLUSION . . . . . .

A GOOD QUESTION came up in the Presbyterian U.S.A. general assembly this month. A lengthy statement on social problems—such as race integration, disarmament, and civil liberties—was being debated in a mild manner. Dr. Edward Elson of Washington arose to ask whether such a statement expresses merely the opinion of the assembly or whether it commits the whole church.

Dr. Eugene Blake, chief Presbyterian official, replied that a statement adopted by the assembly does speak for the church, but does not bind the conscience of any individual. A Presbyterian statement, he said, does not claim the infallibility of a papal statement.

That's true among United Lutherans also. In our convention in October we may adopt a new statement on marriage and divorce. This is as near as we can come to announcing what our church thinks on such a question. The church's statements should have great influence on all of us.

But a statement is not the gospel. It is what a company of Christians at a particular time think the gospel says regarding some problem of our present-day life and they may be wrong.

EDITORS OF THE LUTHERAN are often asked whether this paper "speaks for the church." Editors of official Roman Catholic papers are also asked that same question these days, because they differ among themselves sharply on important matters. They have to admit that there is great diversity of opinion in applying to present-day affairs even such respected statements as the pronouncements of the pope.

As for THE LUTHERAN, it is the "official organ" of the United Lutheran Church. This was determined when the church was formed in 1918. Not until 1940 did church try to define what "official org are. It said they are three things: 1) central promotional and publicity pe icals of the church, its boards and a cies," 2) "the periodicals through w official calls and announcements are r to the church," and 3) "the period whose policies should reflect the faith life of the ULCA."

(In 1940 there were two "officia gans," THE LUTHERAN and a Ger language paper which has been dis tinued.)

To keep THE LUTHERAN on the t the church has a Committee on Ch Papers, elected by the ULC conven which reviews editorial policies of paper at meetings twice a year. It probably be proposed at the conve in October that responsibility for torial policy during intervals bet conventions shall be shifted to church's Executive Board.

REGARDLESS OF HOW authority i ganized, neither a Protestant nor a R Catholic magazine can "speak for church." Editors do the best they ca God gives them guidance, to publish they think is right and useful. Even ch conventions or councils cannot inte the Word of God infallibly. They in humble obedience to the Holy Spi focus their faith and knowledge o questions before them.

The fact is that we as Protestants not turn over to anyone our respons for thinking our own way through problems, with the help of other C tians who live with us in the comm of faith. The Scriptures are open of us for study. The Holy Spirit all of us guidance. —ELSON R

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